



FEB. 2006
No. 223

Love Letter

Love Token Society Newsletter

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BE MY VALENTINE

LOVE TOKENS ONCE EXPRESSIONS OF AFFECTION, NOW
SOUGHT AFTER COLLECTIBLES

*By Emily Mullins, COIN WORLD Staff, Copyright 2006 Coin World, Sidney, Ohio
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World (www.coinworld.com).*

Ahh, love is in the air. It's that time of year when many people attempt to devise clever and meaningful ways to please their better halves, most often coming back to the usual flowers and chocolates. And while it's the thought that counts, today's typical Valentine's Day gifts really have no association with the history of the holiday or what it was meant to represent. In honor of St. Valentine himself, who is credited with the origin of the holiday and with sending the first valentine back in the 16th century, giving a love token may be the perfect way to woo a numismatic-loving woman.

In fact, during the peak of their popularity, love tokens were a common way to woo any woman, as they were considered a genuine and respectable way to show one's affection. That may be difficult to imagine today. However, to put it in perspective, love tokens were most often made on the faces of Seated Liberty dimes, and, when the hourly wages of the early 18th century ranged from one to three cents, a dime was a significant chunk of change.

According to Love Tokens as Engraved Coins by Lloyd L. Entenmann, a love token, or a token of love, is a hand-engraved coin, usually bearing a name, image, message or scene intended to show affection for a particular person. Due to this, each token is unique, with no two exactly alike. Entenmann's theory why little history is recorded about love tokens is that each example has a personal story behind it, not of much interest to the general public.

continued on page 3

PRESIDENT Pat Hammond P.O. Box 12471 Albany, NY 12212 (518) 765-4206 grammichome@logical.net	VICE PRESIDENT Ernie Turnes 607 Waterway Village Blvd. 1-B, Myrtle Beach, SC 29579 (843) 236-3010 evturnes@juno.com	SECRETARY/TREASURER Sid Gale P.O. Box 2351 Denham Springs, LA 70727 (225) 664-0718 sidgale@cox.net	LOVE LETTER EDITOR Robert C. Newhouse 5840 Tuttle Cove Rd. Manhattan, KS 66503 (785) 539-1831 rcn@ksu.edu	LOVE TOKEN SALES Steve Tompkins P.O. Box 1946 Sequim, WA 98382 (360) 670-9688 cell smt115@aol.com
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FINANCIAL STATEMENT

General Funds		
Balance As Of	December 10, 2005	\$4,570.78
Receipts		
Member Dues	\$262.50	
New Member	\$37.50	
Interest	<u>\$1.95</u>	
Total Receipts	\$301.95	
Subtotal		\$4,872.73
Expenses		
CK #1077 Robert C. Newhouse -LL# 222		
Kinkos	\$176.49	
Graphics	\$75.00	
Postage	\$74.00	
Misc. Postage	<u>\$4.24</u>	
Total Expenses	(\$329.73)	
Balance As Of	February 8, 2006	\$4,543.00
Permanent Fund	1-year certificate of deposit	\$1,218.00
	Citizens Bank & Trust, Mandeville. LA 70448	
TOTAL Love Token Society Funds		\$5,761.00

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership as of December 10, 2005	177
New Members	<u>3</u>
Current Membership	180

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

#1099 Chuck Bauche
33 Kimberly Lance
St. Peters, MO 63376-2122
#2000 Phyllis Slabht
3108 Greenwood Trail SE
Marietta, GA 30067
#2001 Allan Thomas
21 Sandpiper Lane
Ocean Pines, MD 21811

**DON'T
DELAY**

2006 Membership dues are DUE.
Please send your dues of \$12.50 to:
Sid Gale
P.O. Box 2351
Denham Springs, LA 70727

Sid Gale, Secretary, Treasurer

Newsletter layout & design - Cindy Jeffrey
15850 Galilee Rd. Olsburg, KS 66520
cinraney@ksu.edu



While little history is recorded about them, love tokens are believed to have originated in Great Britain, although the exact time is unknown. They appeared in the United States during the 1820s, at a time when talented engravers were abundant and U.S. dimes were the most plentiful coin in circulation. The relative softness of the silver made the dime the easiest of the era's circulating coinage to engrave (as compared to, for example, the much harder copper-nickel coinage), although examples of love tokens made on copper 2-cent coins, copper-nickel 3-cent coins and silver half dimes, among others, are also known. Love tokens remained a popular gift until 1909, when Congress made it illegal to mutilate a coin, after which the art of engraving love tokens was never truly revived.

Initial disorder

The most common designs featured on love tokens are initials or names. Often these engravings are so ornate it is difficult to decipher the initials or their order (although the presenters and recipients certainly knew), especially if a token features more than two letters. Other love tokens bear scenes, such as lighthouses or water scenes.

While Congress passed legislation banning the mutilation of U.S. coinage, and the Treasury Department has enforced those statutes against such popularly collected items as love tokens and elongated coins, officials have had a relaxed attitude toward coinage mutilation since the 1960s (as long the coins aren't altered for fraudulent purposes). That means you can create your own love token today.

To create a love token, before engraving, one or both sides of the coin must be smoothed. Today this is most often done using belt sanders, aluminum oxide paper and buffing wheels, but during their popularity, simple files of various textures were used. The coin is then polished with a cloth to remove any evidence of filing marks.

Despite differences in technique, the tools used to execute the engravings are relatively the same. The process is most often done by hand, using tools called gravers that come in a variety of shapes and sizes for different purposes. The length, width or depth of each engraving depends on the particular graver used and the amount of pressure applied.

Countless engraving styles are used to decorate love tokens, from elaborate cursives to boxy prints. According to Entenmann's book, the most popular print was Engravers Old English. Many capital letters

written in this print look very similar, such as "C" and "T," "I" and "J," and "U" and "V." However, the look of any engraving style depends heavily on the engraver's own engraving skills and techniques.

WORN AS JEWELRY

While many love tokens were carried in pockets or purses, others were made into some form of jewelry or accessory for the receiver to wear. Holes would be drilled into the tops of tokens to turn them into bracelets or necklaces.

Often, multiple love tokens were used to make the jewelry more decorative. Pins were commonly attached to the backs of love tokens to make the pieces into broaches or stick pins. Like bracelets and necklaces, broaches were often made from more than one token while pins usually used just a single piece.

Locketts are also known to have been made from love tokens.

Men not only gave love tokens, but they also partook in wearing them. For example, love tokens were converted into overcoat buttons, cuff links, tie clasps, vest chains, watch fobs and also pins.

There is no right or wrong way to collect love tokens. A common way to start is to search for pieces with specific initials or names that provide personal meaning. As Entenmann states, this can be difficult to do when no two love tokens are alike.

An even worse case scenario is finding the right initials or name on a damaged or undesirable piece. However, part of the allure of love tokens is searching for a perfect piece for that perfect person. If one can't find a love token from the 19th century with the appropriate initials or name, one might want to consider engraving a token on an appropriate coin. Such a gift would be more personal than one made for someone else 150 years ago.

While the act of giving love tokens is no longer as popular as it once was, today they are enjoyed and highly collected by hopeless romantics and hobbyists alike.



I was at a coin show this past weekend where I picked up a copy of the Numismatist magazine and read the article about Love Tokens. I am requesting that you please take a look at the XEROX copy a coin that I purchased at this show... for a whopping 35 cents!

Would this be considered a Love Token? Do you have any idea what the initials on the back are? I think the second letter is an "H" but I have no idea of what the first letter is. Oh, I wanted to let you know that if this is a Love Token, the person who made it used one of the Racketeer Nickels as there are remnants of gold plating around the stars and the date on the obverse. Not much left of it on the face, but you can tell that it was there.

Frank Doherty

In response to Frank Doherty's letter:

Yes, you are the proud owner of a love token at a ridiculous price. This type normally sells anywhere from \$15-25. The initials L H are in Old English type. It was not uncommon for the Liberty nickels to be gold plated after engraving was completed. Check for remnants of gold in the field and crevices on the engraved side. Since the coin must be fully smoothed on one side before engraving, any gold color visible on the tooled side indicates plating for decorative purposes.



*Sincerely,
Miss Love Token
(Carol Harmes Decker)*

PERIODS AND THEIR IMPACT ON LOVE TOKENS

Last month I reviewed stones and their meanings. Interestingly, I found that the popularity of stones and decorative styles in jewelry also had influences on love token styles. The book, "Official Identification and Price Guide to Antique Jewelry" written by Arthur Guy Kaplan, references the information below:

Georgian Period 1714-1830

Themes: (Early period) Nature, flowers, leaves, insects, birds, feathers, ribbons, sprays of foliage, and baskets of flowers. (Mid-Late period) pedestal, lovers knots, flaming hearts, doves, bows (cupid), Quivers (sheaths for arrows), scrolls, foliage, festoons (boughs of garland), and ears of wheat.

Stones: (Early period) Diamond, paste (diamond substitute), garnets, turquoise, and coral. (Mid-Late period) Cabochon cut stones, agate, garnet, turquoise, amethyst, and pearls.

Metals: Silver, gold, pinchbeck (gold substitute), and cut steel or marcasites (silver substitute).

Impact on Love tokens: This period would most affect the Early English Copper and silver engraved coins. Foliage borders, birds, ribbons, baskets of flowers, and hearts were all common pictorial themes. Depictions of pedestals and urns were classical influences inspired by archeological excavations such as Pompeii.

The Victorian period had a prolific use of jewelry due to three contributing factors. Queen Victoria, for which this period is named, was fond of jewelry and set trends in fashion and styles. Also important was the effect of the industrial revolution which brought mass production and better affordability. This age of also created prosperity and a growing middle class. Successful businessmen draped their wives in jewelry to show their new status.

Early Victorian (1837-1860)

Themes: Nature, scrollwork, stylized floral sprays, animals, and Gothic revival designs with a renewed

interest in the art of enamel. **Stones:** Small colored gems, turquoise, amethyst, topaz, garnet, peridot, and seed pearls. **Metals:** Gold work in multi colors.

Mid-Victorian (1860-1885)

Themes: Scrolls, floral designs, classical themes, knots, bows, entwined boughs, serpents,

Oriental themes, hunting scenes, and engravings with names, dates, and mizpah. French jewelry was known for fine ornamentation, delicacy, engraving, chasing, and enamel work. **Stones:** Diamond for evening wear. Jet and black glass were popular and also symbolized mourning. In 1861, Prince Albert died and many mourned with the queen. Colored gemstones (influenced by Victoria becoming Empress of India). **Metals:** Silver jewelry was very popular for daytime wear. Jewelry was more massive and fringe and drops were popular in jewelry.

Late Victorian (1885-1900)

Themes: Birds, insects, animals, and sports themes.

Stones: Softer colors, alexandrites, peridots, spinels, tourmalines, pearls, and fancy colored sapphires. Diamonds became even more popular with the invention of electric lighting.

Metal: Jewelry became less elaborate.

Impact on Love tokens: Jewelry engraving carried over to love tokens with names (and initials) and dates being the most popular. On occasion mizpah is also seen engraved on love tokens. Flowers, scrollwork, birds, nature (landscapes) and animals are also popular pictorial themes. Multicolor gold work is a prized possession on gold coins. Enamel is often seen in black representing mourning and is also popular in blue and on occasion in multi colors. The larger cluster triangular pins may have resulted from the more massive jewelry designs of the Mid Victorian period. The popular stones on silver (daytime wear) love tokens were turquoise, pearl, and garnet. On occasion a green stone was used, possibly green garnet (tsavorite), emerald, or tourmaline. Stones used in conjunction with gold coins are less common, but occasionally one can find diamonds and rubies.

Arts and Crafts Movement (1894-1923)

This movement was created when a small group of craftsmen banded together and protested the loss of hand craftsmanship replaced by mass production and the industrial revolution taking over. Each piece of jewelry was completed by one artisan rather than the assembly line philosophy brought about by mechanization. Material preferences were

silver, cabochon stones, and enamel. This group was comprised of untrained amateurs, students, and master craftsmen/teachers and the results of the finished jewelry ranged from crude to fine in quality.

Impact on Love tokens: It has often been theorized that love tokens were made by fine craftsmen and well as by amateurs and loving admirers. This is pretty easy to evaluate by the quality of the finished piece.

Art Nouveau (1890-1915)

The emphasis was more on workmanship and overall effect, with less concern for expensive gems. Silver and gold were used and may have been mixed with less expensive materials such as horn and ivory. Enamel was also very popular in this period. Styles were fluid and featured the female form and portraits, flowers, scrolling patterns, and insects.

Impact on Love tokens: Of course scrollwork and flowers were popular themes in love tokens, but the intricacy of pattern used in the Art Nouveau style had its limits with love tokens due to the small size allotted with a coin as a palette.

Art Deco (1920-1935)

This period is marked by modernism and is stylized, geometric, and angular in form. Designs were simplified and streamlined. It is a little pointless to focus on stones and themes since the time period of this movement is late for love token production. But, a few later love tokens were made with initials in this modern Art Deco text. They are marked by bold block letters that arc to conform to the shape of the coin and others that are angular and geometric.

Focusing on these artistic styles gives insights into the production and art of love tokens. It has always been said that art reflects the times in which it was produced. The majority of love tokens made in the United States fall within the Mid and Late Victorian period. Much of the Victorian period is marked by romanticism, with a story of great love and loss between Queen Victoria and Prince Albert.

*Sincerely,
Miss Love Token
(Carol Harmes Decker)*



CUPID STRIKES

Douglas Mudd

Numismatist, Feb. 2006



Love is in the air, and smitten poets are busy writing ephemeral messages of eternal devotion – certainly nothing for the dedicated numismatist to get excited about. But wait... have you ever noticed those damaged or altered coins

at flea markets and in dealers' junk boxes? Some of those pieces actually are love tokens – intentionally altered coins meant to be given to loved ones as tangible and permanent symbols of commitment and affection. The ANA Money Museum – being the numismatic treasure chest that it is – has a small drawer of these pieces.

Though I admittedly am attracted to the classic coins of old, I thought I should find out more about these objects of the heart. With the help of the Dwight N. Manley Numismatic Library's Library Assistant, Amber Thompson, I reviewed the literature and discovered just how little is written on the subject. In fact, most of the material is in the form of short articles (like this one) composed for the occasion of St. Valentine's Day. You also can read about these pieces in *The Love Letter*, published by the Love Token Society.

What I did learn was that it was customary during medieval times until the late 16th century for an English gentleman to bend a coin (often a sixpence) and present it to his beloved as a token of love and a sign of his intention to marry her. (This practice was documented by both William

Shakespeare and Robert Burns.) The woman would carry the coin with her as a demonstration of her fidelity, much as wearing an engagement ring does today. These customs traveled to America and endured into the 19th century.

The first love tokens appeared in England during the 16th century. Unlike good luck charms, which usually were bent through the center, the pieces were bowed or even cup-shaped and often circulating coins altered with engraved initials or messages. The host coins typically were small-denomination pieces, which supports the idea that love tokens were a middle-class phenomenon – given and received by people of moderate means who were unable to afford precious metal or stones in jewelry form.

The practice of altering coins, mainly copper pieces, resurfaced during the 18th century in England and Germany, as well as other places. Love tokens began appearing in the United States after the Civil War, possibly as an offshoot of using coins to produce "dog tags" which incorporated a

soldier's name, rank and unit with the giver's initials.

In the United States, the love token's heyday occurred during the 1880s and 1890s, when many of the most beautifully and elaborately engraved love



BRITISH PENNY

tokens were created. During this same period, the practice became so popular that it was common to find engravers at any fair and jewelers who provided the service on demand. Indeed, altering became so prevalent that newspapers and the Department of the Treasury expressed concern about the reduction of circulating coinage!

continued bottom of back page

THE CARVINGS OF MIKE PEZAK
DAVID E. SCHENKMAN
Printed with permission from May 2004, Numismatist



Since its release in 1972, the film *Deliverance* has, in the view of many people, become a part of the cultural history of our generation. Written by James Dickey and starring Ned Beatty, Burt Reynolds and Jon Voight, the movie was nominated for three Academy Awards, including Best Picture and Best Director.

One scene features a boy sitting on a porch playing the movie's theme song on a banjo. Titled "Dueling Banjos," this tune quickly became a boon for dealers in musical instruments because of the interest it created in the banjo. Even now, more than 30 years later, bluegrass groups everywhere frequently are asked to play the song.

"What does this have to do with numismatics?" you might ask. Until recently, the answer would have been, "Absolutely nothing." Thanks to the artistry of Mike Pezak, this is no longer the case.

Mike is one of a new generation of artisans who carve coins, much as hobos did during the Great Depression. The "host" coin of choice for most hobos was the Buffalo nickel, and it remains the most popular planchet for their present-day counterparts. On the majority of old "hobo nickels," the Indian's head has been reworked, and many modern artists are content to continue this practice.

Not so for Mike, who came to carve nickels quite by accident a few years ago. A retired jeweler, Mike had some engraving experience and was interested in learning more about various techniques. Through the Internet, he made contact with another engraver, who suggested he look at hobo nickels on eBay® and create some as practice projects. Mike noticed that while some of the carvings offered for sale were very crude, others were quite sophisticated and extremely intricate. He purchased a supply of Buffalo nickels, started experimenting, and soon was hooked.

Before long, as he tried different styles and refined his skills, Mike had used up hundreds of nickels. In the process, he made many "traditional"

examples. However, he wanted his nickels to be different, and in my opinion he has succeeded very well.

My favorite Pezak carvings are a series featuring his character "Hobo Harry." I prevailed upon Mike to make a nickel for me, and he created one titled "Harry's Grand Ole Opry." Engraved on the reverse of the Buffalo nickel, it shows "Harry" lying in a hammock and playing a banjo for a little bird that landed on his toe, with the moon above and one of his shoes on the ground below the hammock. Needless to say, it is a treasured addition to my small collection of modern hobo nickels (all with themes relating to banjos).

Several months ago, I told Mike about my banjo business and mentioned that I played in a bluegrass band. He asked if we played "Dueling Banjos," and after replying in the affirmative, I asked if he would consider carving a nickel with a theme relating to the movie. Mike said he would consider it, and I heard no more from him on the subject until the piece illustrated here arrived in the mail.

Mike used a 1937 Buffalo nickel reverse for this extremely well-detailed work, which shows a bearded man standing and playing a banjo. At the center is a campfire; to the right, another bearded man sits at the base of a tree playing a guitar. Unfortunately, the illustration doesn't do justice to Mike's expertise.

If you'd like to know more about Mike and see some stunning examples of his work, visit his website, www.thehobonickelguy.com. Who knows: You may become hooked on modern nickel carvings!

David Schenkman
Schenkman@money.org

Dr. Robert C. Newhouse
5840 Tuttle Cove Rd.
Manhattan, KS 66503

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A law was passed in 1909 that made the defacement of U.S. coinage illegal. (Today it is illegal only if the intent is to defraud.) Subsequent tokens were produced by frosting and enameling coins, thus avoiding actual defacement of the pieces.

By the mid 1920s, the practice of giving love tokens had largely died out in the United States. A brief revival of production occurred during the early 1970s as collectors rediscovered the pieces and began collecting them in earnest.

Today, by far the most commonly found love tokens date from the late 19th century and appear mostly on small-denomination coins, especially dimes from the 1880s, though they have appeared on almost every U.S. coin denomination, as well as merchants' tokens.

A casual look on eBay® shows a lively trade in love tokens. The Internet in general offers a wealth of information on the subject and a host of dealers of the tokens – mostly modern, cast pieces, but nevertheless demonstration that love tokens remain popular numismatic items.

Museum@money.org



BUST HALF DIME



True
Blue
Love
Tokens



Love Letter

Love Token Society Newsletter

INSIDE

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FINANCIAL
STATEMENT,
MEMBERSHIP

PG. 3 - PRESIDENT'S
MESSAGE

LETTER TO
EDITOR

PG. 4 - ASK MISS
LOVE TOKEN

PG. 5 - NOTES FROM
F.U.N.

PG. 6 - 7
THINK YOU CAN'T
BUY LOVE?

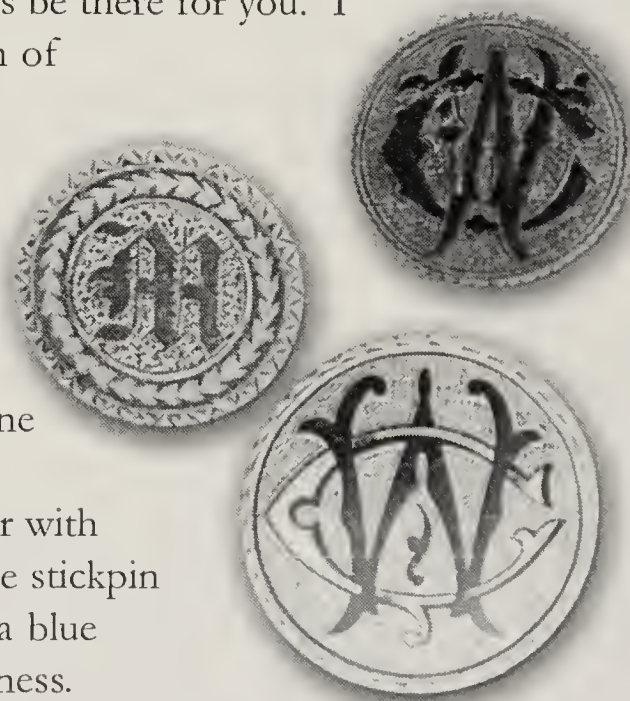
COIN OF THE MONTH

True Blue Love Tokens

From Cory B., Waynesville NC

We have been told that blue enamel love tokens stand for true love and black ones symbolize death and loss. The saying "true blue" stands for a friend or loved one that will always be there for you. I wonder about the marriage tradition of wearing something blue? It too is a symbol, maybe a superstition to wish eternal true love for the couple as long as the advise is followed.

Submitted are three silver love tokens enameled in blue and one gold "bluebird." A quarter and half dollar both with "WC" and a quarter with an "M" and border both in blue. The stickpin (above left corner of Masthead) of a blue enameled bird also stands for happiness.



PRESIDENT

Pat Hammond
P.O. Box 12471
Albany, NY 12212
(518) 765-4206
grammie8@localnet.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Ernie Turnes
607 Waterway Village Blvd.
1-B, Myrtle Beach, SC 29579
(843) 236-3010
evturnes@juno.com

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Sid Gale
P.O. Box 2351
Denham Springs, LA 70727
(225) 664-0718
sidgale@cox.net

LOVE LETTER EDITOR

Robert C. Newhouse
5840 Tuttle Cove Rd.
Manhattan, KS 66503
(785) 539-1831
rcn@ksu.edu

LOVE TOKEN SALES

Steve Tompkins
P.O. Box 1946
Sequim, WA 98382
(360) 670-9688 cell
smt115@aol.com

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

General Funds		
Balance As Of February 8, 2006		\$4,543.00
Receipts		
Member Dues	\$337.50	
New Member	\$37.50	
Engraved Coin Book Sale	<u>\$50.00</u>	
Total Receipts		\$425.00
Subtotal		\$4,968.00
Expenses		
CK #1078 Robert C. Newhouse -LL# 223		
Kinkos	\$278.43	
Graphics	\$75.00	
Postage	\$117.00	
Misc. Postage	\$6.57	
CK #1079 Lloyd Entenman for book	<u>\$50.00</u>	
Total Expenses		(\$477.00)
Balance As Of April 11, 2006		\$4,441.00
Permanent Fund	1-year certificate of deposit	\$1,218.00
	Citizens Bank & Trust, Mandeville. LA 70448	
TOTAL Love Token Society Funds		\$5,659.00

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership as of December 10, 2005	177
New Members	<u>3</u>
Current Membership	180

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

#2002 Sybil Dauray
58 Wolf Den Dr.
Pomfret Center, CT 06259-2121

#2003 John M. Dauray
58 Wolf Den Dr.
Pomfret Center, CT 06259-2121

#2004 Vernon Washabaugh
127 E. 2nd Ave
Latrobe, PA 15650

**DON'T
DELAY**

2006 Membership dues are DUE.

Please send your dues of \$12.50 to:

Sid Gale
P.O. Box 2351
Denham Springs, LA 70727

Sid Gale, Secretary, Treasurer

Invoices will be sent to those who have not paid their dues by May 1st. This will be the final newsletter for those who have not paid their dues. THANKS to all who have sent in their dues - it saves postage for invoices.

Newsletter layout & design - Cindy Jeffrey
15850 Galilee Rd. Olsburg, KS 66520
cinraney@ksu.edu



Hi all, boy, how time flies. Spring is here finally. I know because when I look at my garden, the pansies and the crocuses are blooming. But when I look at my yard I see pine needles and leaves – time to start raking, not my favorite pass-time.

I am sorry I missed the Florida United Numismatists (F.U.N.) convention this past January. I will certainly try to attend next year. I understand there were only about 10-12 members present at the LTS meeting. Sadly, there were no love token exhibits. I am sure the members present did a great job sharing their knowledge about their Love Tokens. I encourage each and everyone of us to try and present a love token exhibit whenever possible, at a local, regional or national show or club.

Did you know that the American Numismatic Association has been holding conventions since 1891? See the list on the bottom of the back page.

The upcoming ANA Convention dates are:

- 2006—Denver, Co. August 16-19
- 2007—Sacramento, CA March 23-25
- 2007—Milwaukee, WI August 8-12
- 2008—Phoenix, AZ March 7-9
- 2008—Baltimore, MD July 30—August 3
- 2009—Portland, OR March 13-15
- 2009—Los Angeles, CA August 5-9
- 2010—Boston, MA August 11-15

During the upcoming summer months, when you are relaxing or working in your garden, it might be a good time to contemplate your collection. What is your favorite piece(s)? Think about how you could share that enjoyment with others. Maybe you could write a story about your special piece or your whole collection and share it with all the members. I always enjoy reading about the Love Token collections of others, there is always something new I learn. This would not only be fun but educational for all. I hope to see many more members contributing articles for our next Love Token Society newsletter.

Have a wonderful, safe summer! Keep looking for that special Love Token for your collection.

*Happy "Love Token" hunting
Pat Hammond, President*



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

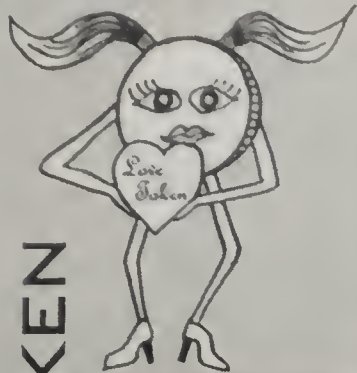
I walked into the Las Vegas coin show this weekend and stopped by to say Hi to Joan and Dick Bitterman. Dick greeted me with a big smile and said "Congratulations," I, of course, asked, "for what..." he said, "for the article about your carvings in the Love Token Society this month." I was surprised when they showed me a copy of the newsletter and want to thank the Love Token Society for printing it to let people see my work.

At the present time I don't really have good examples of my work on my webpage, but I'll include some photos to show you the type of work I do. I would be happy to try my hand at Love Tokens for your club members to enjoy, if you could give me some suggestions and point me in the right direction.

Mike Pezack
MikePezack@aol.com



PAT HAMMOND



LIGHTHOUSES AND THE SECRETS THEY HOLD

Many love token collectors wish they knew the stories their engraved coins could tell. Unfortunately most messages are held locked in the past and remain a secret between the giver and the receiver. Landscapes are one of the more common pictorial LT themes, many of which are of lighthouses and shorelines.

Why were these so prevalent? Well, there may be a few answers. First, the middle classes spent leisure time in both the country and at the seashore. A return from a visit to the beach may have brought with it a souvenir love token memento.

A closer look into the hidden meaning of lighthouses brings a second explanation. A lighthouse is a beacon to guide loved ones home safely. In rough seas, it stands strong and is constant with its enduring light.

An even more interesting meaning was found after correspondence with a LTS member from New York. This member linked lighthouses to the word "Mizpah," which can be found on some love tokens. Normally the meaning of Mizpah is "May the Lord watch over you until we meet again." However, Mizpah in Hebrew means watchtower which could be interpreted as a lighthouse or the turret of a castle.

Sailors were separated from their families for long periods of time. And they are well known for engraving on ivory and whale bone (scrimshaw) while at sea. It seems appropriate that coins too would be engraved with nautical themes. These lighthouse love tokens are not only pleasing from a decorative standpoint but have a deeper meaning of safety, guidance, and constancy.

Miss Love Token
(Carol Harmes Decker)



Lake Champlain, Cumberland Head Light House.





F.U.N. 2006

The following are some observations about the 2006 Florida United Numismatists show, held in Orlando on January 5-8. These are my impressions and yours may be different if you were also there.

I don't believe there were more love tokens than usual on the floor (for a show of this size), but more dealers seemed to have them. These dealers were spread over the entire bourse floor, so you had to ask for love tokens throughout the bourse.

While some marked prices were high, there were also some nice discounts. For \$70, I bought a 15-piece necklace that was marked \$125. It was made of English coins with only plain initials and broken into three sections.

There were no love token exhibits. (As a reminder, a member who enters a love token exhibit at a local, regional or national show gets her/his dues paid by the Society for the following year.)

Our "sister" club, The Original Hobo Nickel Society, had a booth on the floor and a membership meeting with an auction.

Ten members and a guest (a husband) attend the LTS meeting. Experience in the room ranged from veteran to rookie. After each person introduced her/himself, we discussed a variety of subjects. These included how each of us became a LT collector, whether or not to clean love tokens, how to store/display odd size pieces, stories behind love tokens that members have, other love token-related collectibles, and eBay® experiences. Sid Gale told a story behind a bracelet that he brought and had some club copies of Lloyd Entemann's book. Several members bought them (at a discounted price because they had been slightly damaged at Sid's house by Hurricane Katrina). A couple of members also brought pieces to sell and a few exchanged hands. Most who were there seemed to have gained something from the meeting.

A question discussed at the meeting was, "When a man gave his sweetheart a love token with one set of initials, were those initials most likely his or hers?" Answers were based on supposed circumstances.

After the meeting, a few of us discussed ways to improve the timing for members to be able to buy pieces from the newsletter, so everyone can begin ordering at the same time.

This is my first coin show since moving to South Carolina in July 2005, and it was nice seeing dealers and other friends that I hadn't seen since moving.

Ernie Turnes

In few places do love and money fit together as nicely as they do in Love Tokens. Centuries ago coins were held as talismans of good luck. In Great Britain, twice bent coins (called benders) were used to signify a union or love between two people. The bent coin could be carried and held close without fear of loss as the shape protected it from careless spending. This tradition eventually evolved into the love token.

Love Tokens are coins which have been engraved on one or two sides, with a few rare instances of a third side, rim engraving. Some are engraved in the fields or directly on top of the coin devices, while others are smoothed down either through wear or by machining and then engraved. Many were engraved by professional jewelers or craftsmen, but some engravings were undertaken by the giver. Although cruder, a homemade engraving can possess a unique charm.

The tradition began in England as early as the 17th century and later crossed the Atlantic to find a very receptive audience in the United States. The arrival was during the civil war period and later found broad popularity and an enormous following in the 1870s through the early 1900s. In fact it was so popular that it is blamed by some for shortages of dimes in circulation. The widespread popularity in the U.S. shadowed love token use in England during this time; however, the tradition lived on longer – into the 1900s in England.

Engravings on early English coins appear to be on well-worn copper coins with rounded edges and no coin devices showing. Usually engraved on both sides, these coins may have been too worn to circulate, resulting in this inventive reuse. Common engraved themes include names, initials, unions,

births, deaths, pictorials, and prisoner themes. The majority were engraved in the late 1600s and 1700s and are referred to in England simply as engraved coins rather than love tokens, which is the term used in the United States.

Fewer copper coins were engraved in England in the 1800s, with both the style of engraving and coin denomination changing. Early engravings are in a folk art style, similar to early whaling scrimshaw. Later engravings were generally executed by skilled craftsmen, with themes more similar to those being made in the U.S. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, the silver denominations of the four and six pence were most common. These sizes are similar to the half dime and dime, which were also favorite sizes for American love tokens.

In the U.S. by far the most common theme was initials of the giver. Occasionally a name or family member designation (i.e., Mother, Father, Sister...) would be used. Sometimes dates and places were commemorated and occasionally romantic messages were captured. Probably the most coveted among collectors are those with pictorials and of these, landscapes, lighthouses, horseshoes, birds, and flowers are the most common. A little more

unusual are ships, bridges, animals, insects, musical instruments, tools and people. Generally the scarcer or more unique the subject, the more value is placed on the love token. Some love tokens go beyond simple engraving, with added embellishments. Some are enameled with blue (color of true love) or black (color of mourning) the most popular colors, with occasional use of red, white and blue combinations, burnt orange and green.

Semiprecious stones, such as garnets, pearls, and turquoise can be found embedded in silver love tokens, while gold love tokens will have diamonds and rubies incorporated in the design. An addition of silver or gold overlay was also applied to the surface of the coin to form initials or pictorial designs in rare instances. Occasionally the gold overlay is so elaborate, that three colors of gold are used in the design.





The ultimate use of the love token was to be incorporated into some form of jewelry, although some never made it that far and were left as pocket pieces or sat in dresser drawers. Many love tokens are acquired singly today, but most were originally made for jewelry, as evidenced by a hole(s), hook or solder remains. Pins and bracelets were the most common form, but necklaces, earrings, cluster brooches, cufflinks, shirt studs, stickpins, buttons, and watch fobs or chains can also be found. Much rarer are lockets, belts and rings. A quite common single coin with a hole or loop was in many cases used as a charm on a larger jewelry item (necklace or bracelet) and there is no way to determine if it was ever intended as a single pendant or lavalier.

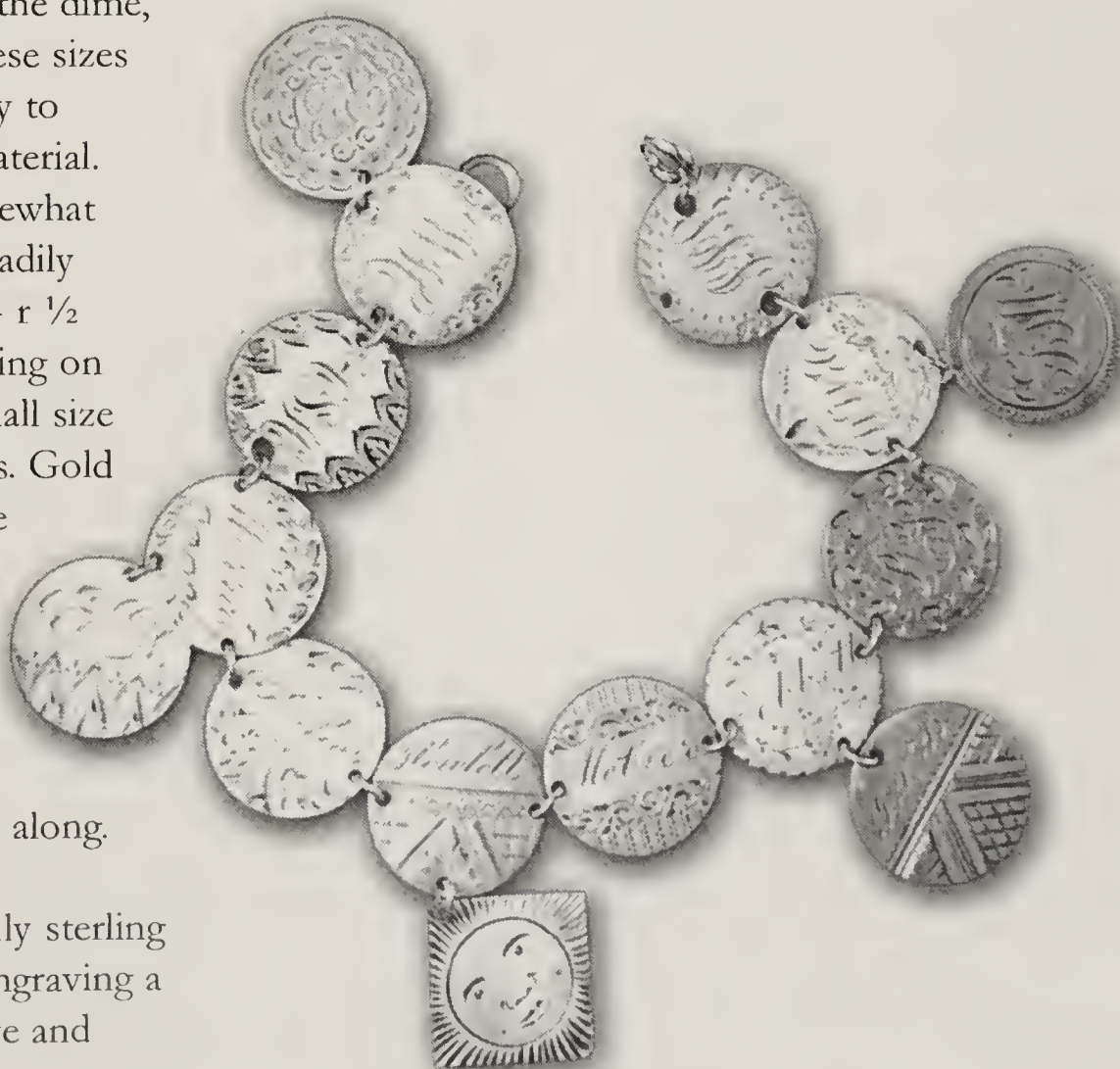
The coin denomination can vary from the half cent to the \$20 gold, both rare denominations for love tokens. The most common size is the dime, followed by the half dime and quarter. These sizes worked well for jewelry, and silver was easy to engrave as well as being a semiprecious material. Sizes as small as the three cent silver (somewhat scarce), gold dollar types 1, 2, and 3 (all readily available), and the California territorial 1/4 r 1/2 dollar (rare) can be found, although engraving on these has its challenges due to both the small size and in some cases the thinness of the coins. Gold love tokens do exist, but the intrinsic value often puts them out of reach for the masses, particularly the higher denominations of \$10 and \$20 size.

There are various theories why the custom died. As with all fads, they run their course until the next new style comes along. Love tokens may have been replaced by "sweetheart" bracelets. These were generally sterling bars linked together with blank areas for engraving a name and had a forget-me-not flower above and

below. Many feel that the coin mutilation act of 1909 was the cause, but production numbers were already shrinking before this time, and some love tokens were made after this date. A close look into the styles of the time, shows that silver jewelry had become declassé with the elite in the 1990s. Increased production methods made silver jewelry affordable to the masses, making it unappealing to the wealthy. With the majority of love tokens being fashioned out of silver, this too could account for the demise of the trend.

Love tokens were simply, as the name suggests, "tokens" of love, affection, or friendship. They were gifts of time and thought rather than intrinsic value. For some, the measure of the love may have been expressed on gold love tokens, but for others, financial status and the ability to afford the greater value coins have left us with many denominations. What may be lacking in value is easily made up for in beauty, but those of lesser means may have found it, quite literally, more difficult to "buy" love.

(Carol Decker - first printed in Tennessee State Numismatic Society - Gayle Pike, editor, "TennCoin News" Winter Issue, 2005)



Dr. Robert C. Newhouse
5840 Tuttle Cove Rd.
Manhattan, KS 66503

LIST OF PAST AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION CONVENTIONS

1891-Chicago	1917-Rochester	1943-Chicago	1969-Philadelphia	1995-Anaheim	1990-San Diego
1892-Pittsburgh	1918-No Conv	1944-Chicago	1970-St. Louis	1996-Denver	1991-Dallas
1893-Chicago	1919-Phil. Pa	1945-No. Conv	1971-Wash. DC	1997-New York	1992-Dallas
1894-Detroit	1920-Chicago	1946-Davenport	1972-New Orleans	1998-Portland	1994-New Orleans
1895-Wash. DC	1921-Boston	1947-Buffalo	1973-Boston	1999-Chicago	1995-Atlanta
1896-No Conv	1922-New York	1948-Boston	1974-Miami	2000-Philadelphia	1996-Tucson
1897-No Conv	1923-Monrea	1949-San Francisco	1975-Los Angeles	2001-Atlanta	1997-Cleveland
1898-No Conv	1924-Cleveland	1950-Milwaukee	1976-New York	2002-New York	1998-Cincinnati
1899-No Conv	1925-Detroit	1951-Phoenix	1977-Atlanta	2003-Baltimore	1999-Sacramento
1900-No Conv	1926-Wash. DC	1952-New York	1978-Houston	2004-Pittsburgh	2000-Ft. Lauderdale
1901-Buffalo	1927-Hartford	1953-Dallas	1979-St. Louis	2005-San Francisco	2001-Salt Lake City
1902-No Conv	1928-Rochester	1954-Cleveland	1980-Cincinnati	2006-Denver	2002-Jacksonville
1903-No Conv	1929-Chicago	1955-Omaha	1981-New Orleans		2003-Charlotte
1904-St Louis	1930-Buffalo	1956-Chicago	1982-Boston	Spring Conventions:	2004-Portland
1905-No Conv	1931-Cincinnati	1957-Philadelphia	1983-San Diego		2005-Kansas City
1906-No Conv	1932-Los Angeles	1958-Los Angeles	1984-Detroit	1978-Colorado Springs	2006-Atlanta
1907-Columbus	1933-Chicago	1959-Portland	1985-Baltimore	1980-Albuquerque	
1908-Phil. Pa	1934-Cleveland	1960-Boston	1986-Milwaukee	1981-Honolulu	
1909-Montreal	1935-Pittsburgh	1961-Atlanta	1987-Atlanta	1982-Colorado Springs	
1910-New York	1936-Minn.	1962-Detroit	1988-Cincinnati	1983-Tucson	
1911-Chicago	1937-Wash.DC	1963-Denver	1989-Pittsburgh	1984-Colorado Springs	
1912-Rochester	1938-Columbus	1964-Cleveland	1990-Seattle	1985-San Antonio	
1913-Detroit	1939-New York	1965-Houston	1991-Chicago	1986-Salt Lake City	
1914-Springfield	1940-Detroit	1966-Chicago	1992-Orlando	1987-Charlotte	
1915-San Francisco	1941-Phil. Pa	1967-Miami	1993-Baltimore	1988-Little Rock	
1916-Baltimore	1942-Cincinnati	1968-San Diego	1994-Detroit	1989-Colorado Springs	



Jun 2006
No. 225

Love Letter

Love Token Society Newsletter

THANKS ... AND OTHER THINGS

Ernie Turnes

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COLUMBUS

PG. 3 PRESIDENT'S
MESSAGE
FINANCIAL
STATEMENT,
MEMBERSHIP

PG. 4 -7 COINS

Our thanks are extended to Sid Gale for temporarily taking over the Love Token Sales and Steve Tompkins for doing this work since August 2001. We also want to thank the consigners who put love tokens in the newsletter, allowing us to have a sale. This is a feature that many members enjoy.

This collector was able to fill a hole in his type set (a Bust half dime) by buying the coin from the last issue's coin offerings. A friend in Maryland found an un-engraved (pre-fab) love token at a coin show and had a jeweler engrave my wife's initials on it, then mailed it to me. I have been looking, unsuccessfully, for a love token inscribed "PET" for several years. And I continue to look for an "authentic" piece so engraved.

Do you have love tokens in your collection that you would like to sell? If so, contact Sid Gale about selling them in the Love Letter. Are you looking for specific initials or names? If so, contact Bob Newhouse, and a "wanted" item can be put in the newsletter.

Each week, COIN WORLD, carries a "Found in Rolls" column, where author, Bill O'Rourke, tells of unusual items he's found in search through coin rolls. I've not seen mention of finding a love token. Have you ever heard of such a find?

I saw an interesting love token on eBay in early July. The 1875 dime was engraved "Two Frauds." I'd love to know the story. Perhaps one of our members won it.

Hopefully, members like the fact that we begin a "start date" for sales after most or all have received their newsletter. This was an item discussed at the Society's meeting at the 2006 FUN show.

PRESIDENT
Pat Hammond
P.O. Box 12471
Albany, NY 12212
(518) 765-4206
grammie8@localnet.com

VICE PRESIDENT
Ernie Turnes
3169 Bayhaven Dr.
Myrtle Beach, SC 29579
(843) 903-1223
cvturnes@juno.com

SECRETARY/TREASURER
Sid Gale
P.O. Box 2351
Denham Springs, LA 70727
(225) 664-0718
sidgale@cox.net

LOVE LETTER EDITOR
Robert C. Newhouse
5840 Tuttle Cove Rd.
Manhattan, KS 66503
(785) 539-1831
rcn@ksu.edu

LOVE TOKEN SALES
Steve Tompkins
P.O. Box 1946
Sequim, WA 98382
(360) 670-9688 cell
smt115@aol.com

Columbus, Ohio, was the site of the 67th Anniversary Convention of the Central States Numismatic Society show. The show was held from April 27-29, 2006 and was a major success. It is considered one of the top five shows in the country with a sold out bourse of 275 booths. Add to this, educational talks, club meetings, YN treasure hunt, two major auctions and 185 cases of competitive exhibits.

I thought this would be a perfect place to display my love tokens. The awards provided by CSNS are 1/2, 1/4, 1/8, oz. Gold eagles for first, second and third place, with the Best of Show being a 1 oz. Gold Eagle. I believe this is the only show to give these types of awards.

I have previously exhibited a three-case exhibit on gold love tokens. The judges provided comments on the judging sheets suggesting ways to improve the exhibit. I thought that since I would be making some changes to it, I would also expand it to six cases, the maximum allowed. My display was a U.S. type set of love tokens from 1 cent to #20. I included some complete jewelry pieces and a Victorian cabinet photo of a woman wearing a love token around her neck.

My exhibit was placed in the token and medal category with six additional token exhibits, none being love tokens. The awards ceremony was on Friday at 1 p.m. I nervously waited to see if my improvements would allow me to placed. I was thrilled when they announced I had won 1st Place for my U.S. Love Tokens exhibit. I received the 1/2 oz. Gold Eagle and the traditional winning hug from Exhibit Chairman, Fran Lockwood.

Being a first place winner put me in contention for the Best In Show Award. This and the other major awards would be awarded at the Awards Breakfast at 7:30 a. m. on Saturday. Only the first place winners from each category are considered for this award. After breakfast on Saturday, I was again nervous for the announcement. The "Best In Show" Award went to Wendell Wolka for his beautiful Ohio banknote exhibit.

The experience of competitive exhibiting was a lot of fun and very fulfilling. It was very enjoyable building it, talking to other exhibitors, and answering questions from the public. What better way to show your collection than to put it on display at a major show, where more than 1,800 people can see it. It helps promote the hobby of Love Token collecting and the LTS. I hope other LTS members will consider exhibiting their prized love tokens.

Tom Casper

REMINDER: *Any Love Token Society member who assembles a love token exhibit at a local, regional or national coin show has his/her LTS dues for the following year paid by the Society. Exhibiting is a way to "show off" some of the pieces in your collection, tell a story and help promote interest in our hobby. Ernie Turnes*

TEN YEARS AGO

The September 1996 issue of the Love Letter listed these Love Token Society officers:

President:	Lloyd Entenmann
Vice President:	Sid Gale
Secretary/Treasurer:	Barbara Newhouse
Love Letter Editor:	Bob Newhouse

Featured on the front page was a story by club member, Bill Fivaz, inviting LTS members of join the Original Hobo Nickel Society. Bill was the OHNS President.

There were five new LTS members listed in the 1996 issue, and 144 love tokens were offered for sale and 45 for auction. Sid Gale handled the sales and auction at the time.

Ernie Turnes

Don't look now, but summer is coming to a close. I hope your summer has been filled with many happy times with family and friends, as mine has been. In July my son from North Carolina came to visit family and friends for a couple of weeks. It was great having him here. There's no place like home!

Also in July, my granddaughter, Taryn Karie, from North Carolina, came to visit Grammie for three weeks. She is ten years old, and fun to have around. We were going all the time with other family members. Don't they know Grammie is getting old? My daughter and her family live close by, so Taryn Karie could have fun with her cousins. We went bowling, which she loves, to the theater to see "Funny Girl," which was great. Taryn Karie has a good singing voice, she really enjoyed the show. She sings in a choir in her hometown, "Voices in the Laurel." Actually, this choir was asked to sing the National Anthem at the Atlanta Braves game. Her father videotaped it, so I was able to see it. What an honor.



PAT HAMMOND

I live outside of Albany, New York, so this year we took the "Aqua Duck" boat ride on the 4th of July. There was a special evening ride on the Hudson river. Fireworks were set off in the city plaza, and we watched them from the boat – beautiful. I took Taryn Karie back to North Carolina and picked up her Mom and little brother, Mitchell, then continued on to Florida. We visited Walt Disney World for a week. We are Disney fans. I returned home in early August – a busy summer but we made a lot of good memories.

We should begin thinking about the upcoming FUN convention in Orlando. It is scheduled for January 4-7, 2007. It is most important for the life of the Society to have a booth or table and a club meeting at the FUN show as well as the two ANA national conventions. It is also very important that the table or booth be manned continuously during the show hours. We need to greet the casual passerby who will not stop or return to an unmanned booth. I hope many members plan to attend and that many of you will help setup a table to display your personal LT collection. This is one important way to inform the general public about Love Tokens. It gives other collectors the opportunity to ask questions and share their interest with us. Much can be learned by just listening. I hope all read the April 2006 issue of Love Letters - and have been remembering how many ANA conventions we attend and what years. In the next issue, I will give my number and look forward to yours. Enjoy the rest of the summer and keep looking for that special love token. I always welcome your ideas, suggestions and comments concerning the growth of our club.

*Happy "Love Token" hunting
Pat Hammond, President*

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Balance As Of June 24, 2006 \$4,989.39

Receipts

Member Dues \$137.50

New Member \$12.50

Love Token Sales Refund \$336.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS \$486.00

Subtotal \$4,975.39

Expenses

CK #1086 Robert C. Newhouse -LL# 225

Kinkos \$142.13

Graphics \$75.00

Stamps \$78.00

Misc. Postage \$4.68

Total Newsletter Expenses (\$299.81)

CK#1087 Book Refund \$37.50

CK#1088 Dave Jerdee \$394.00

CK#1089 Jessie Peters \$675.60

TOTAL EXPENSES (\$1,406.91)

Balance As Of August 20, 2006 \$3,568.48

Permanent Fund 1-year certificate of deposit \$1,254.54

Citizens Bank & Trust, Mandeville. LA 70448

TOTAL Love Token Society Funds \$4,823.02

MEMBERSHIP REPORT





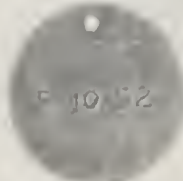


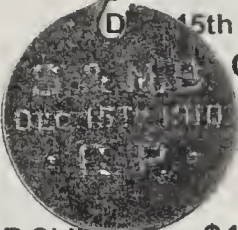





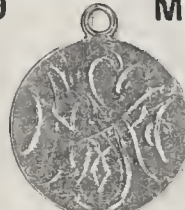























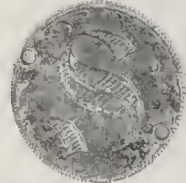
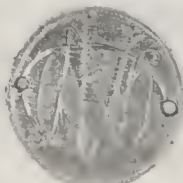
Membership as of June 24, 2006 158

WELCOME NEW MEMBER








#2005 Frederick Warren
P.O. Box 362
Richmond, CA 94808

Sid Gale, Secretary, Treasurer

E-1 RFG  1887 \$7.00	E-2 F  1840 \$8.00	E-3 WSA  1891 \$8.00	E-4 FC  1877 \$8.00	E-5 AGP  Canada \$0.05 \$9.00	E-6 WFW  1875 \$9.00
E-7 HFC  1876 \$9.00	E-8 GR  10c \$10.00	E-9 Clara  3 Pence \$10.00	E-10 MES  1883 \$10.00	E-11 CEW  1875 \$11.00	E-12 TTS  1875 \$11.00
B-1 FEW  1876 \$7.00	B-2 JC  1859 \$7.00	B-3 HAT  <1853> \$7.00	B-4 LAP  1876 \$7.00	B-5 JHE  1877 \$7.00	B-6 HHC  1890 \$7.00
B-7 NCW  1875 \$7.00	B-8 ET  1856 \$7.00	B-9 MJC  1861 \$7.00	B-10 MT  1884 \$8.00	B-11 JTP  1883 \$8.00	B-12 MDG  1876 \$8.00
B-13 HDS  1877 \$8.00	B-14 MCH  1883 \$8.00	B-15 JM  1875 \$8.00	B-16 SBP  1883 \$8.00	B-17 JWC  1876 \$8.00	B-18 MJP  1869 \$8.00
B-19 LS  1882 \$8.00	B-20 FTY  1883 \$8.00	B-21 AHA  1883 \$8.00	B-22 ARK  1883 \$8.00	B-23 CEA  \$8.00	B-24 CBT  1877 \$8.00
B-25 HKMcP  1876 \$8.00	B-26 AG  \$8.00	B-27 EHB  1890 \$8.00	B-28 WM  1871 \$8.00	B-29 GEG  1875 \$9.00	B-30 EVM  1887 \$9.00
B-31 ALS  1883 \$9.00	B-32 CRA  1877 \$9.00	B-33 ME  1877 \$9.00	B-34 HOC  1876 \$9.00	B-35 KMD  1877 \$9.00	B-36 JL  1876 \$9.00

37	JRM	B-38	MOR	B-39	CEC	B-40	LHB	B-41	P-1	PAT / 5-10-52	
				5 Love Token Dimes of lesser Quality.							
77	\$10.00	<1854>	\$10.00	1892	\$10.00	1875	\$10.00	\$25.00	Dime ??	\$8.00	
2	HG	P-3	JRT	P-4	S & M B D 15th 1910 GP	P-5	HG	P-6	Papa	P-7	B
											
907	\$8.00	1887	\$12.00	GB Shilling	\$15.00	1891	\$13.00	1/2 Dime <1853>	\$18.00	1857	\$18.00
8	Tasso	P-9	Amy G	P-10	MSK	P-11	Floral Wreath	P-12 The . Great . War Aug 4th 1914 Oraltar Talavera North Hampton			
											
1876	\$18.00	Canada	\$21.00	1868	\$2.50 Gold	Canada Cent	\$30.00	Pin Geo V Shilling	\$50.00		
13	Dave	P-14	JLC	P-15	IMcA	J-1	D	J-2	NB		
											
1944	Australia Florin	\$20.00	Reverse XF - Nice Type Letters lightly scratched	1871 Half Dollar	\$25.00	CC Mint LS Half	\$40.00	pin part 1875	\$10.00	25c 1872	\$10.00
5	MEH	J-6	GRL	J-7	Burton	J-8	"G" Notes on Collar	J-9	CL	J-10	ASH
											
59	\$12.50	LS 25c	\$12.50	Germany 1 Groschen	\$12.50	Foreign	\$12.50	1877	\$15.00	<1853>	\$15.00
11	J. Peterson	J-12	D	J-13	NEC	J-14	FCH	J-15	AF	J-16	AES / WHR
											
1874	\$15.00	1837	Bust Dime	\$15.00	<1854>	\$15.00	1883	\$15.00	1876	\$15.00	\$15.00
17	FHR	J-18	WAN	J-19	JS	J-20	Bert	J-21	S	J-22	OAN
											
387	\$15.00	1883	\$15.00	1882	\$15.00	1875	\$15.00	1875	\$15.00	1875	\$15.00

J-23	FAH / LAB	J-24	LW	J-25	Feb 22 1899	J-26	EP	J-27	B	J-28	WCG
											
Dime	\$15.00	Brac Part 1876	\$15.00	Indian Cent	\$15.00	1875	\$15.00	25c <1854>	\$15.00	LS 25c	\$15.00
J-29	Flower "K"	J-30	Bill	J-31	Vera	J-32	EGS	J-33	Jessie	J-34	Frank
											
Foreign	\$15.00	Gr Brit 3 Pence	\$15.00	Gr Brit 6 Pence	\$15.00	1883	\$20.00	New Foundland	\$20.00	Blank	\$20.00
J-35	Birdie	J-36	Belle	J-37	Carrie	J-38	DBA	J-39	KB	J-40	Janie
											
1884	\$20.00	1875	\$20.00	1875	\$20.00	25c	\$20.00	Gr Brit One Cent	\$20.00	Canada	\$20.00
J-41	XTMAS FEA 1917	J-42	"T" Brass worn design	J-43	Horseshoe "K" inside	J-44	Pictorial TW Scene	J-45	JEC		
											
FRANCE	\$30.00	3 Pieces	\$15.00	Gr Brit 3 Pence	\$30.00	1852	\$30.00	5c Canada	\$15.00		
J-46	KM ??	J-47	HCL	J-48	JCK	J-49	TS	J-50	Jr		
											
Grand Army of the Republic Veteran Piece	\$25.00	1876	\$12.50	1876	\$12.50	Canada	\$10.00	1876	\$9.00		
BP-1	AD	BP-2	WB	BP-3	HVW	A-1	Mel	S-1	JWC	S-2	WPJ
											
1884	\$10.00	1882	\$10.00	1899	\$9.00	1876	\$15.00	Dime	\$10.00	1877	\$9.00
S-3	MAC	G-1	VOS 1888	G-2	Knights Of Columbus / JHR	V-1	Effie	V-2	May Flower	V-3	Winnie
											
Dime	\$9.00	Flying Eagle 1858	\$30.00	\$5.00 Gold	\$160.00	1890	\$5.00	1891	\$20.00	Canada	\$20.00
V-4	Lydia	V-5	Father	V-6	Henry	V-7	Olly	V-8	Edie	V-9	Louis
											
Canada	\$20.00	Gr Brit	\$20.00	1883	\$20.00	1 Ore Sweden	\$20.00	Canada	\$20.00	Germany	\$20.00

 1876 \$7.00	 1877 \$7.00	 Cut Down LS Dime \$10.00	 Canada \$10.00	 1891 \$12.00	 1843 \$13.00
 1885 \$15.00	 1849 \$17.00	 1841 Pin Parts \$18.00	 1870 \$18.00	 1877 \$18.00	 1884 \$18.00
 1891 \$18.00	 1840 \$20.00	 1887 \$20.00	 1848 \$20.00	 1884 \$20.00	 1882 1c \$22.00
 1878 \$22.00	 1866 Shield 5c \$30.00	 Sterling disk \$4.00	 Sterling disk \$4.00	 3 Cent Silver \$35.00	 3 Cent Silver \$35.00
 51 Cent Silver \$35.00	 Bust 1/2 Dime \$15.00	 1/2 Dime \$20.00	 1839 1/2 Dime \$20.00	 Bust Dime \$18.00	 1835 Bust Dime \$22.00
 1835 Bust Dime \$29.00	 1836 Bust Dime \$30.00	 1885 \$20.00	 1887 \$13.00	 1892 \$15.00	 Dime \$8.00
 Dime \$15.00	 Dime \$15.00	 Canada \$25.00	 All Engaved Sides \$75.00	 Great Britain \$11.00	
 S Dime & 1/2 Dimes Working Brooch \$65.00	 Canada Working Brooch \$55.00	 LS Dime & 1/2 Dimes Working Brooch \$60.00			

Love
Love Token Society Newsletter
Letter

Dr. Robert C. Newhouse
5840 Tuttle Cove Rd.
Manhattan, KS 66503

LOVE TOKEN SALES

There are four pages of Love Tokens for sale in this newsletter. Thanks to our webmaster, Kyle Knapp, and our graphic designer, Cindy Jeffrey, you can see them on line also. Go to:

<http://www.showoffcoin.com/lovetokens>
to view them on-line. As in the past, starting from the time the first person contacts me, until seven days have passed, anyone calling can order up to five tokens only. After seven days, if you wish to order more, you will be able to call and place that order. By doing this, more people will get an opportunity to purchase the tokens they want.

The position of Love Token Sales is available.
It is a very interesting and enjoyable assignment. It provides the opportunity to study a large quantity of love tokens and "meet" LTS members as they call in to order. If interested please call me and I will explain in detail what is required.

The sale will begin SEPT. 14, 2006. Call me at 225-664-0718 or email me at sidgale@cox.net

ORDERING LOVE TOKENS

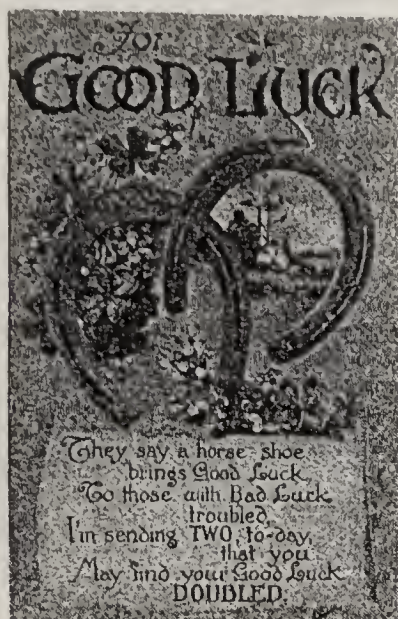
Please make checks payable to:
Sid Gale
P.O. Box 2351
Denham Springs, LA 70727
(225) 664-0718
sidgale@cox.net

In remitting, please do not forget
to include the postage as follows:

Orders

up to \$ 50 - add \$2.00
up to \$100 - add \$3.25
up to \$150 - add \$4.00
up to \$200 - add \$5.00
up to \$300 - add \$5.50
up to \$400 - add \$7.75
OVER \$400 - add \$9.25

Even if you call and are not able to reach me, **please** leave your choices on my answering machine or voicemail. I will always get the message, so you have a better chance to get the coins you want. **I WILL STRESS AGAIN, DO NOT JUST SEND PAYMENT FOR COINS. YOU MUST PLACE THE ORDER BY PHONE OR E-MAIL**



Love Letter

Love Token Society Newsletter

AUG
JAN 2006
No. 225
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FINANCIAL
STATEMENT,
MEMBERSHIP

PG. 3-4 POTTY

DOLLAR

PG. 5-7 COINS

SECRET IMAGES AND THEIR MEANINGS

A look into the past reveals a secret language between lovers, friends, and family. Past issues of the Love Letter have shared with us the meanings of individual flowers, powers represented by gemstones, and the symbolism of colors enameled on love tokens. Even last month's issue showed the deeper importance of lighthouses.

Circa 1900 postcards illustrate the secrets of flowers, gemstones, colors, and more. Pictured are horseshoes as images of good luck and a most interesting card displaying "The Language of Charms." Listed below are those objects with their meanings:

Heart	= Love	Anchor	= Hope
Fish	= Peace	Pansy	= Remembrance
Horn	= Joy	Horseshoe	= Success
Shoe	= Health	Pig	= Wealth
Ivy	= Long life	Magnet	= Money
Die	= Prosperity	Clover	= Happiness

Further reading and research will reveal the symbolism in other objects as well, so much so that the task could be endless. Prince Albert made popular the image of snakes and serpents when he presented Queen Victoria with an engagement ring with a snake design. Surprisingly, the image conveyed good luck in its day. Birds are a popular subject in pictorial love tokens and one source displays a blue bird in flight as a carrier of happiness.

Certain images on love tokens often struck me as odd, such as a shoe. Once knowing that it stands for health, the mystery is now understandable. An anchor now is not a symbol of one who enjoys boating, but an image of hope. What other secret symbols are out there? Please feel free to send your comments to:

Ask Miss Love Token
C/O Carol Harmes Decker
5145 Admiral PL
Sarasota, FL 34231



PRESIDENT

Pat Hammond

P.O. Box 12471

Albany, NY 12212

(518) 765-4206

grammie8@localnet.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Ernie Turnes

3169 Bayhaven Dr.

Myrtle Beach, SC 29579

(843) 903-1223

evturnes@juno.com

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Sid Gale

P.O. Box 2351

Denham Springs, LA 70727

(225) 664-0718

sidgale@cox.net

LOVE LETTER EDITOR

Robert C. Newhouse

5840 Tuttle Cove Rd.

Manhattan, KS 66503

(785) 539-1831

rcn@ksu.edu

LOVE TOKEN SALES

Steve Tompkins

P.O. Box 1946

Sequim, WA 98382

(360) 670-9688 cell

smt115@aol.com

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

General Funds

Balance As Of April 11, 2006 \$4,441.00

Receipts

Member Dues	\$875.00	
New Member	\$0.00	
Engraved Coin Book Sale	<u>\$53.00</u>	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$928.00

Subtotal \$5,369.00

Expenses

CK #1078 Robert C. Newhouse -LL# 223	
Kinkos	\$157.24
Graphics	\$85.00
Stamps	\$117.00
Misc. Postage	<u>\$4.55</u>
Total Newsletter Expenses	(\$363.79)

CK#1081 John Vaughn LT refund	\$65.75	
CK#1082 Walmart - Invoice Supplies	\$15.76	
CK#1083 USPS - Invoice Postage	\$39.00	
CK#1084 Loyd Entennman - Book	\$50.00	
CK#1085 Linda Amey	\$336.00	
Cash - Invoice Printing	\$9.31	
TOTAL EXPENSES		(\$879.61)

Balance As Of June 24, 2006 \$4,489.39

Permanent Fund	1-year certificate of deposit	\$1,218.00
	Citizens Bank & Trust, Mandeville. LA 70448	

TOTAL Love Token Society Funds \$5,707.39

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership as of June 24, 2006 148

Sid Gale, Secretary, Treasurer

Newsletter layout & design - Cindy Jeffrey
15850 Galilee Rd. Olsburg, KS 66520
cinrancy@ksu.edu



RELATIVE OF HOBO NICKELS

BY CAROL DECKER

Akin to hobo nickels, potty dollars have similarities but also have significant differences. Both are carved, requiring a process of “moving or pushing” metal. The raised coin design is carved away where metal is not wanted, and in other areas “pushed” to create higher surfaces. Once the foundation of the design is created, areas may be finely sculpted, tooled, punched, or engraved. Few hobo nickels are technically “engraved,” as that implies professional engraving tools and formal training. Most “hobos” used available objects like awls and nails, and frequently altered metal objects to make personal tools for their craft. The only training, if any, would have come from other hobos. The majority of potty dollars also have a hand-hewn feeling, but an occasional few have professionally engraved qualities.

As the name may imply, the primary design on potty dollars is a chamber pot with a woman seated atop. In the nineteenth century, prior to indoor plumbing, people used outhouses and/or chamber pots for sanitation. Even when indoor plumbing was introduced, it took some time to reach most homes.

The potty dollar predates the hobo nickel, most having been engraved on Trade dollars from the Centennial (1876) through 1878 (later dates are rare and are proof only issues, with none known in the form of potty dollars). They were most likely made as early as 1876 and up through about 1900. Dating them is approximated through the dates on the coins and the amount of wear a coin might have received in circulation prior to being engraved. One impediment is that the majority of these coins were carried as pocket pieces, in some cases adding twenty plus years of wear to the engraving as well as the coin. Determining the wear prior to engraving is easiest when studying more perfect (but scarcer) examples which were probably kept in dresser drawers.

Hobo nickels, as suggested by the name, are generally portraits of hobos. This is especially true of

the earliest types carved on high-grade 1913 buffalo nickels and probably made no later than the early 1920s. Hobo nickels made later have increasing amounts of subject variety. Bo, one of the best-known artists, used many themes, among them are traditional hobos (many probably portraits of friends), his brother (a soldier), his girlfriend (few depictions of women were ever carved), animals (very rare), clowns and more.

Modern engravers are still creating this wonderful form of folk art, and their only subject limitation rests within their own imagination.

Many collectors hold to the hobo origins and want a more traditional theme, but others embrace the new creativity.

Hobo nickel collectors know that even among the dominant theme of the hobo, there are many differences from coin to coin, even if they are subtle nuances. Raised metal on the hatband often signals an above average specimen. An eye and nose re-tooled from the original Indian portrait shows an extra effort by the artist. Hair can be placed under the hat brim on the forehead or not, the hobo may or may not have facial hair, and the “hairdo” can be strait, curly, bushy, or thin, with some hair “punched” and some tooled/engraved. Then there is the ear, which can be shaped like a peanut, a telephone, a simple linear “C” shape, or no ear at all, hidden under hair. Clothing can vary from a simple “V” shape suggesting a collar to more elaborate shirts, jackets, and even a “diamond” stud at the neck. On occasion, a hobo must feel like smoking a cigar.

Potty dollars are characterized by a single subject, but also have subtle design changes. The shape and size of the chamber pot can vary along

POTTY DOLLARS



continued on page 4



"In God We Trust" mottos have been altered to read "In Pot We Trust" and "Daddies' Dollar."

with the striping or banding designs. Some pots sit on the floor, others are on platforms, and some are outdoors with landscaping. Scarce examples may have engraving on the pot like "Charley's Pot," or the "In God we trust" motto can be re-engraved "Daddies' Dollar" or "In Pot We Trust." One unique example does not have a pot at all, but is an old fashioned water closet complete with pull chain. The seated and always female figure can be totally nude or dressed with a gown, toilet paper, or a cornucopia. The right hand often holds the same branch as the original coin, but occasionally the branch is smoothed and removed, and on rare examples she might be holding (how shall I put it) a "male appendage."

Like two-sided hobo nickels, rare examples of potty dollars can also be carved on the reverse with the eagle turned into (uh oh, here we go again) a "flying male appendage" (a similar motif is sometimes seen carved on Flying Eagle coins).

These designs, although most abundant on Trade dollars, are not restricted to them. They can be found also on Liberty Seated coins from the dime to the dollar. Rare examples exist on a Standing Liberty quarter (standing and urinating with no chamber pot) and an English "Cartwheel" two pence. Crossover collectors may be interested in the existence of a potty dollar/box dollar combination (two known), and a unique potty quarter/love token engraved "Wm H West" on the reverse.

Traditional hobo nickels were almost always fashioned from buffalo nickels, with a few original hobo cent exceptions (both Lincoln and Indian). Newer hobo nickels from the 1980s, and particularly modern hobo nickels, can have a wider variety of host coins.



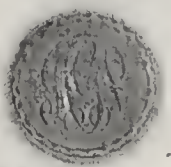






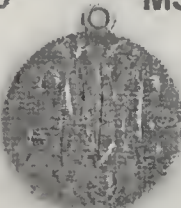

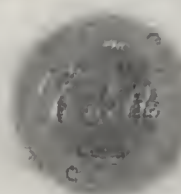

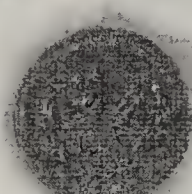
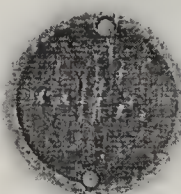
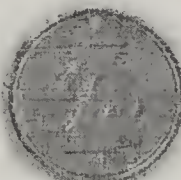



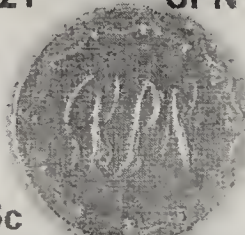



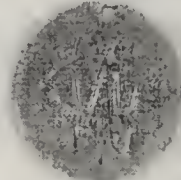
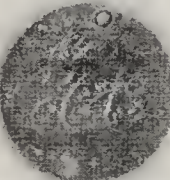




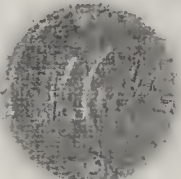
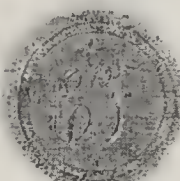


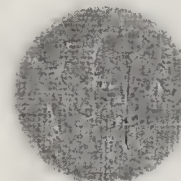
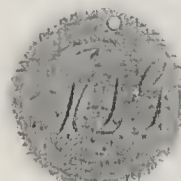

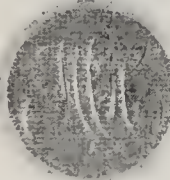


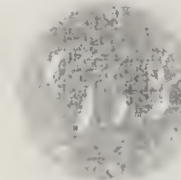
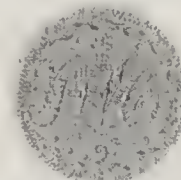
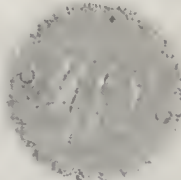





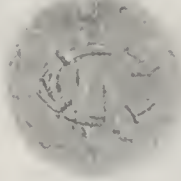
Potty dollars are related to hobo nickels, although it is unclear whether they are just a lewd cousin or a crazy aunt. In a time of Victorian prudish Puritanism where even women's ankles were covered and the legs on some chairs were skirted, how did our relative Miss Liberty become nude sitting on a chamber pot for all to see? It is an interesting iconoclastic social commentary, similar to hobos being portrayed on our nation's coinage. Perhaps Miss Liberty is protesting rigid Victorian restrictions and leading a quiet rebellion. Maybe the hobo on the coin champions a social and economic class ignored and misunderstood by the rest of society. Whatever the case, they are crafted in much the same manner by artisans sharing a similar vision and ingenuity, and leaving with us the treasures of bygone times.




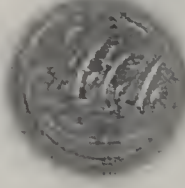
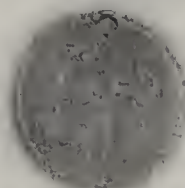

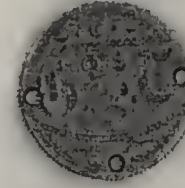

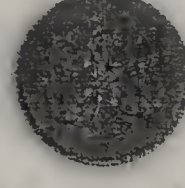
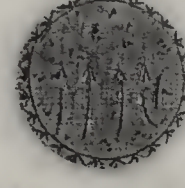
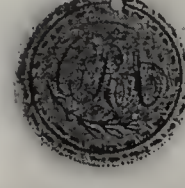



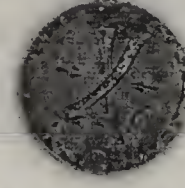







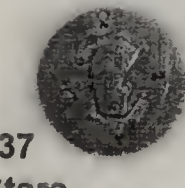
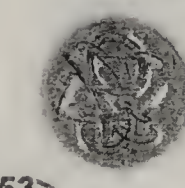

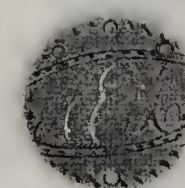
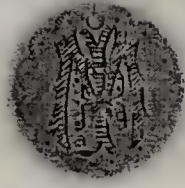
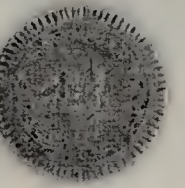



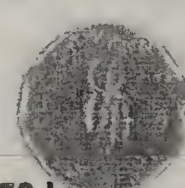

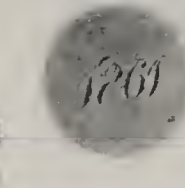
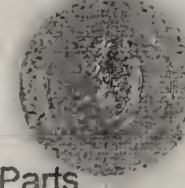



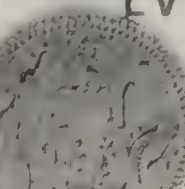
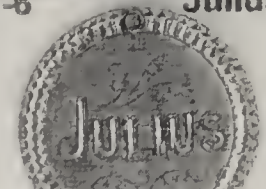

Naughty potty dollars, "naughty" parts have been covered.

Carol Harmes Decker








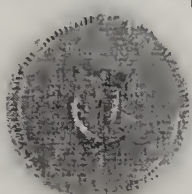


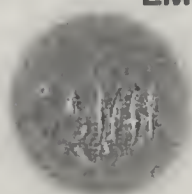
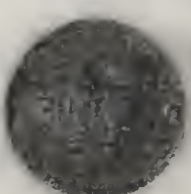





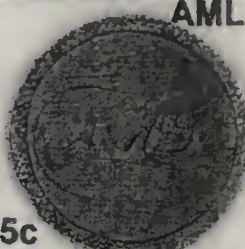
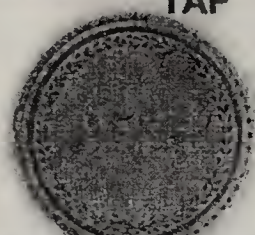
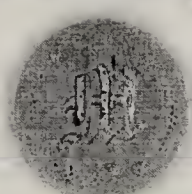
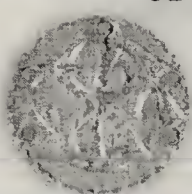
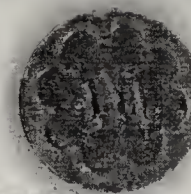











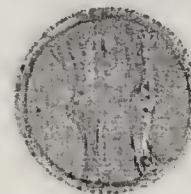

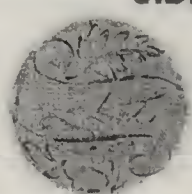

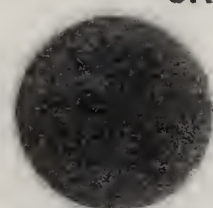



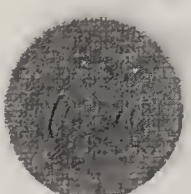


Love Token Sales

T-1  1891 \$8.00	T-2  1877 \$9.00	T-3  Canada \$0.05 \$9.00	T-4  1875 \$9.00	T-5  1887 \$9.00	T-6  1840 \$9.00
T-7  1876 \$9.00	T-8  10c \$10.00	T-9  1889 \$10.00	T-10  1883 \$10.00	T-11  3 Pence \$10.00	T-12  1883 \$10.00
T-13  1883 \$10.00	T-14  1849 \$11.00	T-15  1875 \$11.00	T-16  1875 \$11.00	T-17  1890 \$12.00	T-18  1887 \$12.00
T-19  1883 \$13.00	T-21  25c 1858 \$13.00	T-21  25c \$14.00	B-1  1876 \$7.00	B-2  1859 \$7.00	B-3  1883 \$7.00
B-4  <1853> \$7.00	B-5  1876 \$7.00	B-6  1877 \$7.00	B-7  1890 \$7.00	B-8  1883 \$7.00	B-9  1875 \$7.00
B-10  1856 \$7.00	B-11  1861 \$7.00	B-12  1884 \$7.00	B-13  1883 \$7.00	B-14  1876 \$7.00	B-15  1877 \$7.00
B-16  1883 \$7.00	B-17  1887 \$7.00	B-18  1875 \$7.00	B-19  1883 \$7.00	B-20  1876 \$7.00	B-21  1869 \$7.00
B-22  1882 \$7.00	B-23  1875 \$8.00	B-24  1897 \$8.00	B-25  1887 \$8.00	B-26  1883 \$8.00	B-27  1877 \$8.00

Love Token Sales

<div>B-28</div> <div>FTY</div> <div></div> <div>1883</div> <div>\$8.00</div>	<div>B-29</div> <div>AHA</div> <div></div> <div>1883</div> <div>\$8.00</div>	<div>B-30</div> <div>ARK</div> <div></div> <div>1883</div> <div>\$8.00</div>	<div>B-31</div> <div>CEA</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div>\$8.00</div>	<div>B-32</div> <div>CBT</div> <div></div> <div>1877</div> <div>\$8.00</div>	<div>B-33</div> <div>HKMcP</div> <div></div> <div>1876</div> <div>\$8.00</div>
<div>B-34</div> <div>AG</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div>\$8.00</div>	<div>B-35</div> <div>EHB</div> <div></div> <div>1890</div> <div>\$8.00</div>	<div>B-36</div> <div>WM</div> <div></div> <div>1871</div> <div>\$8.00</div>	<div>B-37</div> <div>CRA</div> <div></div> <div>1877</div> <div>\$8.00</div>	<div>B-38</div> <div>ME</div> <div></div> <div>1877</div> <div>\$8.00</div>	<div>B-39</div> <div>HOC</div> <div></div> <div>1876</div> <div>\$8.00</div>
<div>B-40</div> <div>KMD</div> <div></div> <div>1877</div> <div>\$8.00</div>	<div>B-41</div> <div>JL</div> <div></div> <div>1876</div> <div>\$8.00</div>	<div>B-42</div> <div>PAC</div> <div></div> <div><1853></div> <div>\$8.00</div>	<div>B-43</div> <div>MOR</div> <div></div> <div><1854></div> <div>\$8.00</div>	<div>B-44</div> <div>CEC</div> <div></div> <div>1892</div> <div>\$9.00</div>	<div>B-45</div> <div>LHB</div> <div></div> <div>1875</div> <div>\$9.00</div>
<div>B-46</div> <div>LRC</div> <div></div> <div>CCR</div> <div>\$12.00</div>	<div>B-47</div> <div>WEC</div> <div></div> <div>1887</div> <div>\$12.00</div>	<div>B-48</div> <div></div> <div>5 Love Token Dimes of lesser Quality.</div> <div>\$25.00</div>	<div>B-49</div> <div></div> <div>5 Love Token Dimes of lesser Quality.</div> <div>\$25.00</div>	<div>B-50</div> <div></div> <div>5 Love Token Dimes of lesser Quality.</div> <div>\$25.00</div>	<div>G-1</div> <div>VOS</div> <div></div> <div>1888</div> <div>1858</div> <div>FE 1c</div> <div>\$30.00</div>
<div>G-2</div> <div>C</div> <div></div> <div>1837</div> <div>No Stars Half Dime</div> <div>\$20.00</div>	<div>G-3</div> <div>JCP</div> <div></div> <div><1853></div> <div>Half Dime</div> <div>\$13.00</div>	<div>G-4</div> <div>MYP</div> <div></div> <div>Blank</div> <div>\$7.00</div>	<div>G-5</div> <div>AEH</div> <div></div> <div>1877</div> <div>\$8.00</div>	<div>G-6</div> <div>JRM</div> <div></div> <div>1877</div> <div>\$8.00</div>	<div>G-7</div> <div>M</div> <div></div> <div><1853></div> <div>\$8.00</div>
<div>G-8</div> <div>GS</div> <div></div> <div>1882</div> <div>\$9.00</div>	<div>G-9</div> <div>MED</div> <div></div> <div>1868</div> <div>\$10.00</div>	<div>G-10</div> <div>GS</div> <div></div> <div>25c <1853></div> <div>\$18.00</div>	<div>G-11</div> <div>JD</div> <div></div> <div>\$2.50 Indian Gold</div> <div>\$85.00</div>	<div>G-12</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div>1954</div> <div>Canada \$1.00</div> <div>\$60.00</div>	
<div>P-1</div> <div>1861</div> <div></div> <div>1834</div> <div>Bust Half Dime</div> <div>\$20.00</div>	<div>P-2</div> <div>J</div> <div></div> <div>Pin Parts</div> <div>1838</div> <div>\$9.00</div>	<div>P-3</div> <div>MHS</div> <div></div> <div>1884</div> <div>\$10.00</div>	<div>P-4</div> <div>HP</div> <div></div> <div>25c Canada</div> <div>\$15.00</div>	<div>G-14</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div>1894</div> <div>WM Dice</div> <div>(Engraved in field)</div> <div>\$18.00</div>	
<div>P-5</div> <div>LV</div> <div></div> <div>25c 1856</div> <div>\$16.00</div>	<div>P-6</div> <div>Julius</div> <div></div> <div>25c 1876</div> <div>\$28.00</div>	<div>G-13</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div>TJT</div> <div>2 1884 Dimes Working Pin</div> <div>\$35.00</div>			

Love Token Sales

 P-7 EBL Large 1c \$45.00	 P-8 RW 1852 T-1 \$1.00 \$45.00	 P-9 Cora-Train (pictorial) 1885 \$50.00	 MAB 1876 \$7.00	 EH 1877 \$7.00	 HHI Cut Down LS Dime \$10.00
 PHA Canada \$10.00	 T 1856 \$12.00	 SP <1873> \$12.00	 RF 1878 \$12.00	 LMW 1891 \$12.00	 M 1843 \$13.00
 LR 1852 \$14.00	 YGS 1892 \$14.00	 WMA 1845 \$15.00	 JMA 1884 \$15.00	 MLD 1885 \$15.00	 AML 25c <1854> \$15.00
 TAP 1857 25c \$15.00	 M 1849 \$17.00	 JDS 1884 \$17.00	 M 1841 Pin Parts \$18.00	 C 1842 \$18.00	 FKZ 1870 \$18.00
 WCN <1873> \$18.00	 RAN 1877 \$18.00	 MMC 1883 \$18.00	 JEC 1884 \$18.00	 RD 1886 \$18.00	 ME 1890 \$18.00
 WFB 1891 \$18.00	 Aunt Clara 1858 Half Dime \$20.00	 Vienna 1856 Half Dime \$20.00	 WR 1840 \$20.00	 HANK 1887 \$20.00	 J.D.L. 1848 \$20.00
 KC 1884 \$20.00	 JKA 1882 1c \$22.00	 Mizpah 1878 \$22.00	 Dec 7, 1896 (on the skirt) \$23.00		 M 1858 50c \$40.00
 CR 1866 3c \$25.00	 FW 1892 25c \$25.00	 GC 1866 Shield 5c \$30.00	<1854> \$23.00		

Love
Love Token Society Newsletter
Letter

Dr. Robert C. Newhouse
5840 Tuttle Cove Rd.
Manhattan, KS 66503

LOVE TOKEN SALES

The Love Token Society extends our condolences to Steve Tompkins, whose father passed away in April. Due to time constraints, Steve will be unable to continue doing the Love Token Sales. Steve has worked hard for LTS these past several years and we appreciate it. THANK YOU, Steve.

Sid Gale has temporarily assumed the position. there are three pages of Love Tokens for sale in this newsletter. As in the past, starting from the time the first person contacts me, until seven days have passed, anyone calling can order up to four tokens only. After the seven days if you wish to order more, then you will be able to call and place that order. By doing this, more people will get an opportunity to purchase the tokens they want.

The sale will begin JULY 5, 2006. Call me at 225-664-0718 or email me at sidgale@cox.net

ORDERING LOVE TOKENS

Please made checks payable to:

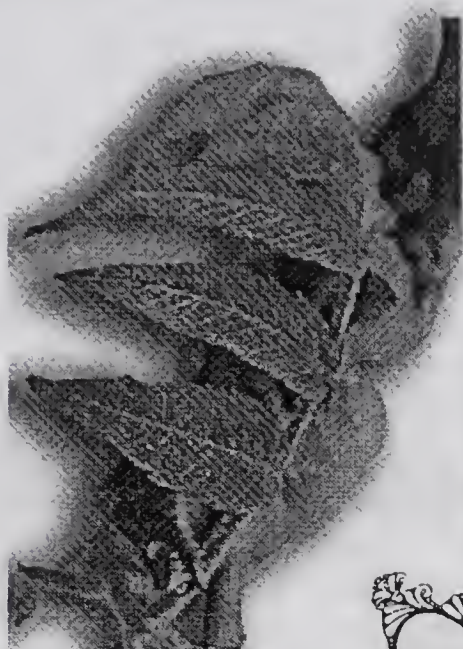
Sid Gale
P.O. Box 2351
Denham Springs, LA 70727
(225) 664-0718
sidgale@cox.net

In remitting, please do not forget to include the postage as follows:

Orders

up to \$ 50 - add \$2.00
up to \$100 - add \$3.25
up to \$150 - add \$4.00
up to \$200 - add \$5.00
up to \$300 - add \$5.50
up to \$400 - add \$7.75
OVER \$400 - add \$9.25

Even if you call and are not able to reach me, **please** leave your choices on my answering machine or voicemail. I will always get the message, so you have a better chance to get the coins you want. I WILL STRESS AGAIN, DO NOT JUST SEND PAYMENT FOR COINS. YOU MUST PLACE THE ORDER BY PHONE OR E-MAIL



Nov 2006

No. 227

Love Letter

Love Token Society Newsletter

\$667! LOVE TOKEN ERNIE TURNES



1864 Liberty Seated half made into a badge, only remnants of pin on obv. of coin. The engraving depicts a watch dog, eyes open, resting on a chest labeled "AM EX CO". \$677.

INSIDE

PG. 2 ONE
COLLECTOR'S
TRASH

PG. 2 FINANCIAL
REPORT

PG. 3 ONE
COLLECTOR'S
TRASH
CONTINUED

PG. 4 -7 COINS

In the September 25, 2006 issue of Coin World, coin dealer Jonathan Kern had a two-page ad entitled "World Treasures." In the ad was a love token described this way, "1864 Liberty Seated half (dollar) made into a badge, only remnants of pin on obverse of coin. The engraving depicts a watch dog, eyes open, resting on a chest labeled 'AM EX CO'." The asking price was \$667. Like many pieces in our collections, we'd love to know the story behind the piece.

PRESIDENT
Pat Hammond

P.O. Box 12471
Albany, NY 12212
(518) 765-4206

grammie8@localnet.com

VICE PRESIDENT
Ernie Turnes

3169 Bayhaven Dr.
Myrtle Beach, SC 29579
(843) 903-1223

evturnes@juno.com

SECRETARY/TREASURER
Sid Gale

P.O. Box 2351
Denham Springs, LA 70727
(225) 664-0718

sidgale@cox.net

LOVE LETTER EDITOR
Robert C. Newhouse

5840 Tuttle Cove Rd.
Manhattan, KS 66503
(785) 539-1831

rcn@ksu.edu

LOVE TOKEN SALES
Sid Gale

P.O. Box 2351
Denham Springs, LA
70727
(225) 664-0718

sidgale@cox.net

SOME ALTERATIONS ADD CHARM TO COLLECTIBLE COINS, OTHERS RUIN

By Emily Mullins
Coin World Staff

ONE COLLECTOR'S TRASH

"One man's trash is another man's treasure" is a phrase one rarely connects to the numismatic hobby, as most collectors only consider coins in the most pristine conditions worthy of collecting. However, there is a genre of coins that are purposely defaced, or altered and collected by many, with pieces that sometimes sell for significant prices.

This group of coins includes hobo nickels, love tokens and elongated coins, among others. While it is true that some collectors see these pieces as worthless, others support the totally opposite idea. It is often thought that altered pieces illustrate the creative possibilities for coins, and the alterations can add a whimsical, personal and even romantic touch to these collectible items.

LOVE TOKENS

Love tokens are hand-engraved coins that usually bear a name, image, message or scene intended to show affection for a particular person. Each token is unique. This characteristic often adds to the appeal of collecting them, particularly for those who thrive on the thrill of the search.

Love tokens have a lovely history. They are believed to have originated in Great Britain,

although the date is unknown, and appeared in the United States during the 1820s, at a time when talented engravers were abundant and U.S. dimes were the most plentiful coins in circulation. (Most love tokens were made on the faces of Seated Liberty dimes, although they were also made on 2-cent coins, copper-nickel 3-cent coins and silver half dimes.)

As the average hourly wage of the 19th century ranged from one to three cents, presenting a woman with a beautifully engraved dime was considered a genuine and respectable way to show one's affection. Love tokens remained popular gifts until 1909, when Congress made it illegal to mutilate a coin. Although officials have relaxed regulations on coinage mutilation since the 1960s, the art of love token engraving has, unfortunately, never truly revived to its 19th century level.

However, some love tokens are still created today. To create a love token, one or both sides of the coin must be smoothed before engraving. Today this is most often done using belt sanders, aluminum oxide paper and buffing wheels. The coin is then polished with a cloth to remove evidence of filing marks. During the love tokens' height of popularity, simple files of various textures were used.

(continued on pg 3)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Balance As Of August 20, 2006

\$3,568.48

Receipts

Love Token Sales Refund \$610.50

TOTAL RECEIPTS \$610.50

Subtotal \$4,178.98

Balance As Of August 20, 2006 \$3,568.48

Permanent Fund 1-year certificate of deposit \$1,254.54
Citizens Bank & Trust, Mandeville. LA 70448

TOTAL Love Token Society Funds \$5,085.81

Expenses

CK #1090 Robert C. Newhouse

Kinkos \$155.71

Graphics \$75.00

Stamps \$117.00

Total Expenses (\$347.71)

TOTAL EXPENSES (\$1,406.91)

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership as of Oct. 25, 2006 158

Sid Gale, Secretary, Treasurer

While some of the techniques have changed, many of the tools used to engrave love tokens have remained the same. The process is conducted by hand, using tools called gravers that come in a variety of shapes, sizes and purposes. The length, width or depth of an engraving depends on the particular graver used and the amount of pressure the engraver applies.

Love tokens were often made into jewelry such as pins, locket, bracelets and hair barrettes, using one or many pieces. Men also incorporated love tokens into their daily wardrobes in the forms of overcoat buttons, cuff links, tie clasps and watch fobs.

HOBO NICKELS

The horrible conditions throughout the country during the Great Depression required people to come up with clever ways just to survive. Hobos, for example, wandered the country searching for and performing odd jobs in exchange for food, clothing and shelter. They usually used freight train boxcars to get where they were going.

Hobos would also engrave Indian Head 5-cent coins and exchange them for food and other such necessities. Known as "hobo nickels," the pieces have been artistically altered, usually by engraving, to rework the Indian, the bison or both figures into characters such as clowns, pirates, elves and even other hobos.

Two of the most famous names among hobo nickel engravers are George Washington "Bo" Hughes and Bertrand "Bert" Wiegand. Wiegand was the skilled craftsman who taught "Bo" the art of hobo nickel engraving.

In 2005, a hobo nickel thought to have been engraved by "Bo" Hughes sold for \$3,190 during the Original Hobo Nickel Society's 13th Annual Auction, conducted Jan. 15, in conjunction with the Florida United Numismatists convention in Fort Lauderdale. The coin shows the bison on the reverse of a 1913 Indian Head 5-cent coin altered to resemble a gold caddy holding the pole from the ninth hole in his two hands. A gold bag with clubs appears strapped to the caddy's back.

ELONGATED COINS

Elongated coins are usually made to remember a notable person, an event, a place, an object or even a saying. Some serve as advertisements or tell a specific portion of a story. In reality, themes for elongated coins are as varied as the imagination will allow.

Elongates are produced by placing a coin between two steel rollers, usually one of which contains a die with the design the coin will feature. When rolled between them, the coin is flattened and stretched into an

elliptical shape. When finished, one side of the coin, most commonly the obverse, will bear the raised impression. The other side typically will bear a flattened rendition of the coin's original design.

Elongating coin machines are relatively small and compact, considering the significant amount of pressure they emit, and often weigh less than 100 pounds. While the density of the machines prohibits them from being completely portable, they can usually be moved to commercial sites with enough manpower.

Elongated coins flourished during the first half of the 20th century and during that time also became known as memento souvenirs. Efforts toward political reforms encouraged governmental participation in statewide and nationwide activities and events, many of which prompted commemorative elongated coins.

However, by 1945, World War II had put a halt

to the production of most nonessential items, including souvenir coinage. The production of elongated coins was revived during the early 1960s, without government interference, and along this same time, elongated enthusiasts became prominent. Books, journals and newsletters appearing, drawing attention to the topic. Elongated coins still serve as inexpensive souvenirs and keepsakes today.



"HOBO NICKELS" are Indian Head 5-cent coins that have been artistically altered to rework the Indian, the bison or both figures into characters such as clowns, above left, pirates, elves and even other hobos, above right.

OTHER ALTERED COINS

Other examples of altered coins have little to no collector value. These include "two-headed" and "two-tailed" coins, which are made when two coins are cut in half and the two obverses and two reverses are joined together.








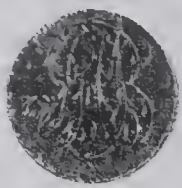



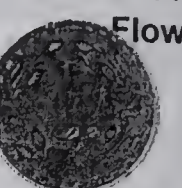


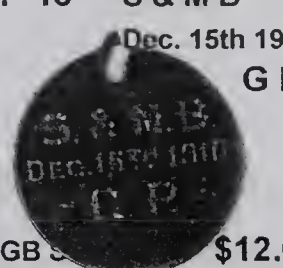

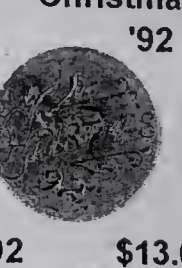



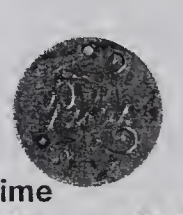






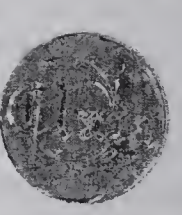
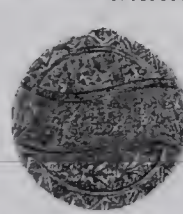


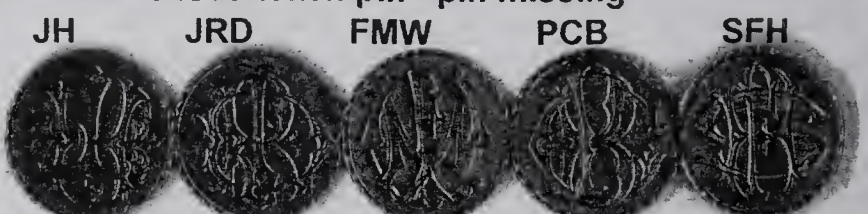






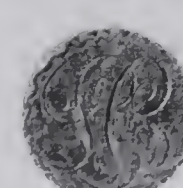





"Glued" coins are made when two coins are joined together using a clear glue or epoxy. After the glue hardens and the coins are separated, the coin exhibits design detail from both coins.

"Sandwich" coins are made when one coin is placed against an anvil or other hard metal surface and a second coin is placed on top of it. A heavy mallet is used to strike the coins, causing design elements from the top coin to be incused into the metal of the bottom coin.




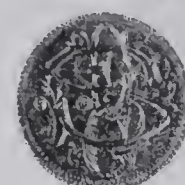

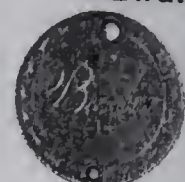












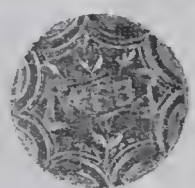






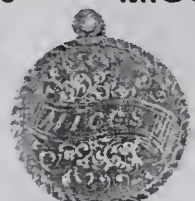




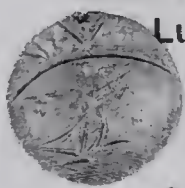



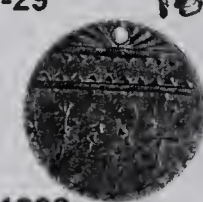
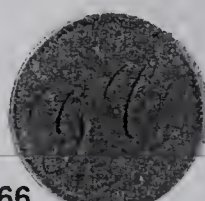






Counterfeit and whizzed coins are inexpensive or invaluable coins altered to appear more valuable, usually using a wire brush or a variety of other techniques.

While some altered coins are better than others, not all have negative connotations. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.

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P-1 GH  1875 \$8.00	P-2 DC MK  <1873> \$8.00	P-3 PFM / 84  Dime \$8.00	P-4 LTD  1877 \$8.00	P-5 JEL  1890 \$8.00	P-6 M.E.W.  Dime \$8.00
P-7 ETR  1902 \$8.00	P-8 JAB  1902 \$9.00	P-9 SD  1857 \$9.00	P-10 HEW  1875 \$10.00	P-11 WPH  1884 \$10.00	P-12 J H H Flowers  1883 \$14.00
P-13 CE  1870 Indian Cent \$12.00	P-14 JRT  1887 \$12.00	P-15 S & M B Dec. 15th 1910 G P  GB \$12.00	P-16 Floral Wreath  Canada Cent \$25.00	P-17 Christmas '92  1892 \$13.00	
P-18 Dave  1944 \$20.00 Australian Florin	P-19 B  1839 \$13.00	P-20 WE  1889 \$13.00	P-21 Papa  1/2 Dime <1853> \$18.00	P-22 Papa  1883 \$18.00	P-23 Hugo  1887 \$20.00
P-24 Grandpa  1851 \$20.00	P-25 Aunt  1883 \$20.00	P-26 Uncle  1882 \$20.00	P-27 Allie  1884 \$20.00	P-28 Clara  1884 \$20.00	
P-29 Minnie  1883 \$20.00	P-30 AH Pictorial light house SB etc  1890 \$40.00	P-31 LCP Pictorial farm scene  1888 \$40.00	P-32 5 love token pin - pin missing JH JRD FMW PCB SFH 		
E-1 RFG  1887 \$7.00	E-2 WSA  1891 \$8.00	E-3 FC  1877 \$8.00	E-4 AGP  Canada \$0.05 \$9.00	E-5 WFW  1875 \$9.00	E-6 HFC  1876 \$9.00
E-7 LC  Canada \$9.00	E-8 GR  10c \$10.00	E-9 Clara  3 Pence \$10.00	E-10 MES  1883 \$10.00	E-11 CEW  1875 \$11.00	E-12 TTS  1875 \$11.00

3 Seym. Seymore ?  1883 \$15.00	E-14 Lilian  1883 \$15.00	E-15 Anna M L  1883 \$15.00	E-16 Dr Shaw  1877 \$15.00	E-17 Jay Julia /  25c \$15.00	E-18 Papa Mama  1883 5c \$15.00
9 MAMA w/ Bird  Canada 5c \$18.00	E-20 C Pelletier  Canada 5c \$18.00	E-21 R Laperrier  Canada 5c \$18.00	E-22 M. L. L.  enameled "CC" Dime \$22.00	E-23  pin removed Canada 50c \$40.00	EB
24  n removed 61 L.S. Half \$50.00	F.O.B.	J-1 Jr  1875 \$9.00	J-2 enamel "E" chip  25c \$9.00	J-3 NLP  1876 \$9.00	J-4 JTL  1891 \$9.00
5 ECW  1875 \$9.00	J-6 Star /JRL  3 Pieces	" T " worn design Brass 10c  \$15.00	J-7 GMW  1877 \$10.00	J-8 EOP  1876 \$10.00	J-9 TFT  working pin \$10.00
10  Grand Army of the Republic Veteran Piece \$25.00	KM ??	J-11 AFC  Canada Dime \$10.00	J-12 SER  Canada Dime \$10.00	J-13 WHP  1877 \$10.00	J-14 TS  Canada \$10.00
15 EM  n parts ime \$10.00	J-16 TWC  1882 \$10.00	J-17 "G" Notes on Collar  Foreign \$12.50	J-18 HCL  1876 \$12.50	J-19 JCK  1876 \$12.50	J-20 LEC  1887 \$15.00
-21 WCL  Canada Dime \$15.00	J-22 FAH / LAB  Dime \$15.00	J-23 OAN  1875 \$15.00	J-24 CL  1877 \$15.00	J-25 ASH  <1853> \$15.00	J-26 J. Peterson 1874  Dime \$15.00
-27 NEC  <1854> \$15.00	J-28 AF  1876 \$15.00	J-29 AES / WHR  \$15.00	J-30 FHR  1887 \$15.00	J-31 WAN  1883 \$15.00	J-32 Bert  1875 \$15.00

J-33 LW  Brac Part 1876 \$15.00	J-34 WCG  LS 25c \$15.00	J-35 Flower "K"  Foreign \$15.00	J-36 EGS  1883 \$20.00	J-37 Frank  Blank \$20.00	J-38 Birdie  1884 \$20.00	
ST-1 KBK  Sterling ST-7 \$4.00	ST-2 MAB  1876 \$7.00	ST-3 EH  1877 \$7.00	ST-4 HHI  Cut Down LS Dime \$10.00	ST-5 PHA  Canada \$10.00	ST-6 HCS  Great Britain \$11.00	
ST-7 LMW  1891 \$12.00	ST-8 J.M. DYER  Bust 1/2 Dime \$15.00	ST-9 M  1849 \$17.00	ST-10 JOHN . RORICK  Bust Dime \$18.00	ST-11 M  1841 Pin Parts \$18.00	ST-12 FKZ  1870 \$18.00	
ST-13 WFB  1891 \$18.00	ST-14 RAN  1877 \$18.00	ST-15 JEC  1884 \$18.00	ST-16 WR  1840 \$20.00	ST-17 HANK  1887 \$20.00	ST-18 J.D.L  1848 \$20.00	
ST-19 KC  1884 \$20.00	ST-20 MIGGS  1885 \$20.00	ST-21 Masonic Pictorial  1/2 Dime \$20.00	ST-22 JKA  1882 1c \$22.00	ST-23 Pictorial Horseshoe  1889 \$22.00	ST-24 Pictorial sailboat  \$22.00	
ST-25 Pictorial sailboat / Lucille  \$24.00	ST-26 Pictorial Bird  1878 \$28.00	ST-27 JOC  Shield 5c \$28.00	ST-28 ES  1835 Bust Dime \$29.00	ST-29 1884  1833 Bust Dime \$30.00	ST-30 GC  1866 Shield 5c \$30.00	
ST-31 S.I. B.H.M. E.W.  1885 1890 1875 1890 Working Pin \$50.00		ST-32 Don Pat Rosie  1887 1887 ???? 1875 Joseph Working Pin - Broke Catch \$55.00		ST-33 IDA  1851 3 Cent Silver \$35.00 G-1 J L J  3c silver \$35.00		ST-34 LCE / 1886  3 Cent Silver \$35.00 G-2 R W / 1893  Dime \$20.00

1-1  75 \$7.00	KS-2  1873 \$7.00	KS-3  1883 \$7.00	KS-4  1870 Half Dime \$9.00	KS-5  1860 Half Dime \$10.00	V-1  1890 \$5.00
2  Brit \$20.00	V-3  1 Ore Sweden \$20.00	V-4  Germany \$20.00	B-1  1876 \$7.00	B-2  1859 \$7.00	B-3  <1853> \$7.00
4  1876 \$7.00	B-5  1877 \$7.00	B-6  1890 \$7.00	B-7  1875 \$7.00	B-9  1861 \$7.00	B-9  1884 \$8.00
-10  1883 \$8.00	B-11  1876 \$8.00	B-12  1877 \$8.00	B-13  1883 \$8.00	B-14  1875 \$8.00	B-15  1883 \$8.00
-16  1876 \$8.00	B-17  1869 \$8.00	B-18  1882 \$8.00	B-19  1883 \$8.00	B-20  1883 \$8.00	B-21  1883 \$8.00
3-22  \$8.00	B-23  1877 \$8.00	B-24  1876 \$8.00	B-25  \$8.00	B-26  1871 \$8.00	B-27  1875 \$9.00
3-28  1887 \$9.00	B-29  1883 \$9.00	B-30  1877 \$9.00	B-31  1877 \$9.00	B-32  1876 \$9.00	B-33  1877 \$9.00
B-34  1876 \$9.00	B-35  1877 \$10.00	B-36  <1854> \$10.00	B-37  1892 \$10.00	B-38  1875 \$10.00	B-39 5 Love Token Dimes of lesser Quality. \$25.00

Love
Love Token Society Newsletter
Letter

Dr. Robert C. Newhouse
5840 Tuttle Cove Rd.
Manhattan, KS 66503

WANTED

Love Tokens wanted with golfing and fishing scenes. Please write or call Eric Sweet, P.O. Box 4736, Rumford, RI 02916 (401) 524-5967

LOVE TOKEN SALES

There are four pages of Love Tokens for sale in this newsletter. Starting from the time the first person contacts me, until five days (change) have passed, anyone calling can order up to five tokens only. After five days, if you wish to order more, you will be able to call and place that order. By doing this, more people will get an opportunity to purchase the tokens they desire.

The position of Love Token Sales is available. Will the next Love Token Sales person please contact me. The position is still available commencing with the 2007 newsletters.

The sale will begin NOV. 15, 2006. Call me at 225-664-0718 or email me at sidgale@cox.net

ORDERING LOVE TOKENS

Please make checks payable to:
Sid Gale
P.O. Box 2351
Denham Springs, LA 70727
(225) 664-0718
sidgale@cox.net

In remitting, please do not forget to include the postage as follows:
Orders

up to \$ 50 - add \$2.00
up to \$100 - add \$3.25
up to \$150 - add \$4.00
up to \$200 - add \$5.00
up to \$300 - add \$5.50
up to \$400 - add \$7.75
OVER \$400 - add \$9.25

Even if you call and are not able to reach me, please leave your choices on my answering machine or voicemail. I will always get the message, so you have a better chance to get the coins you want. I WILL STRESS AGAIN, DO NOT JUST SEND PAYMENT FOR COINS. YOU MUST PLACE THE ORDER BY PHONE OR E-MAIL
